

WO06117675

Publication Title:

No title available

Abstract:

Abstract not available for WO06117675 Data supplied from the esp@cenet database - Worldwide

Courtesy of <http://v3.espacenet.com>

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
9 November 2006 (09.11.2006)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2006/117675 A1

(51) International Patent Classification:

C07C 69/52 (2006.01) C07C 67/14 (2006.01)
C07C 69/587 (2006.01) A61K 31/21 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/IB2006/001229

(22) International Filing Date: 17 January 2006 (17.01.2006)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:

60/647,545 27 January 2005 (27.01.2005) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): OCEAN NUTRITION CANADA LTD. [CA/CA]; 101 Research Drive, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia B2Y 4T6 (CA).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): BARROW, Colin, James [NZ/CA]; 404 Francklyn Street, Halifax, NS B3H 1A8 (CA). KRALOVEC, Jaroslav, A. [CA/CA]; 11 Berkshire Close, Halifax, NS B3S 1H4 (CA).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,

AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

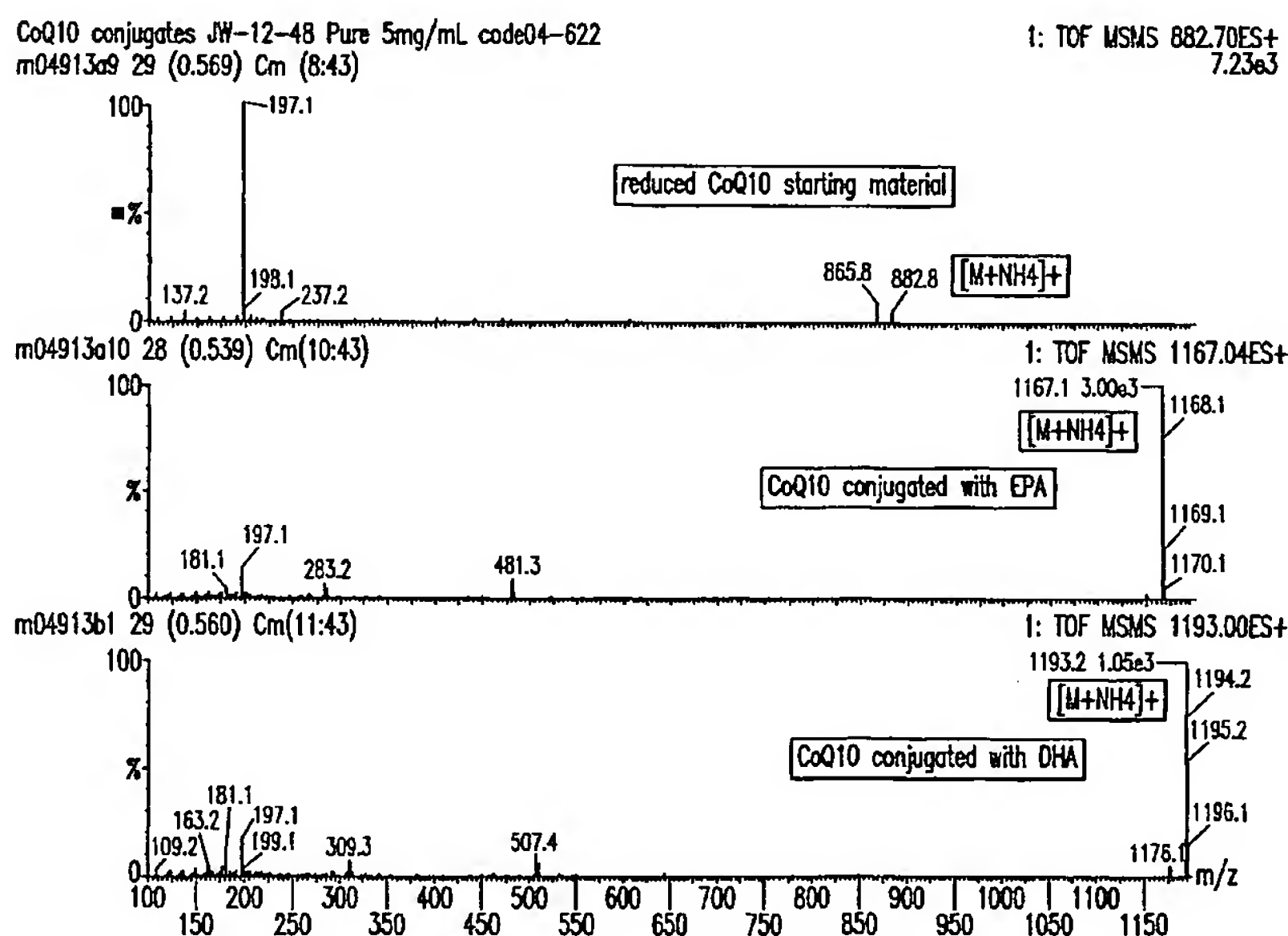
(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: FATTY ACID-BENZENEDIOL DERIVATIVES AND METHODS OF MAKING AND USING THEREOF



(57) Abstract: Disclosed are compounds comprising a benzenediol derivative bound to one or more fatty acids. Also disclosed are nutritional supplements, pharmaceutical formulations, delivery devices, and foodstuffs comprising the disclosed compounds. Methods of using the disclosed compounds and compositions to improve health are also disclosed.

FATTY ACID-BENZENEDIOL DERIVATIVES AND METHODS OF MAKING AND USING THEREOF

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

5 This application claims the benefit of priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/647,545, filed January 27, 2005. U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/647,545 is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

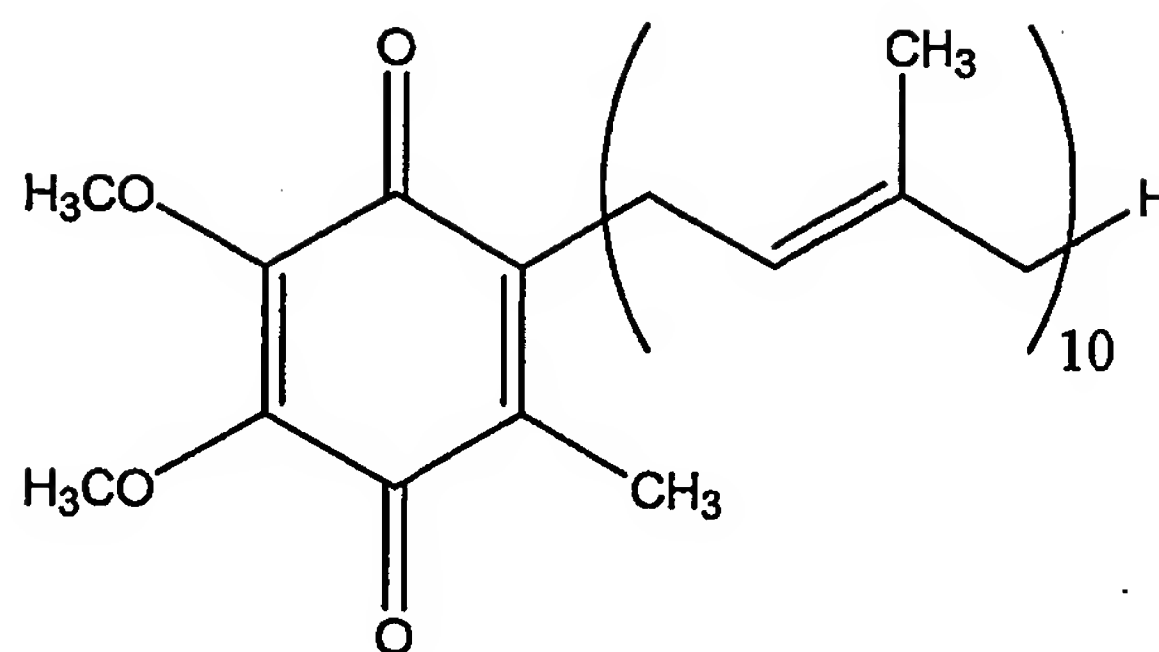
FIELD

10 The disclosed matter relates to compounds comprising fatty acids and benzenediol derivatives, including methods of making and using such compounds.

BACKGROUND

15 Benzenediols are an important class of compounds with varied properties and uses. For example, one subclass of benzenediols is ubiquinol, a reduced form of Coenzyme Q. Coenzymes Q are also called ubiquinones, mitoquinones, or ubidecarerones, and they are lipophilic, water-insoluble substances involved in electron transport and energy production in mitochondria. The basic structure of coenzymes Q comprises a benzoquinone "head" and a terpinoid "tail." The "head" structure participates in the redox activity of the electron transport chain. The major difference among the various coenzymes Q is in the number of isoprenoid units (5-carbon structures) in the "tail." Coenzymes Q typically
20 contain from 1 to 12 isoprenoid units in the "tail"; 10 isoprenoid units are common in animals such as mammals and man.

 Coenzymes Q occur in the majority of aerobic organisms, from bacteria to plants and animals. Two numbering systems exist for designating the number of isoprenoid units in the terpinoid "tail": coenzyme Q_n and coenzyme $Q(x)$, where n refers to the number of
25 isoprenoid side chains and x refers to the number of carbons in the terpinoid "tail" and can be any multiple of five. Thus, coenzyme Q_{10} (also termed CoQ_{10}) refers to a coenzyme Q having 10 isoprenoid units in the "tail." Since each isoprenoid unit has five carbons, CoQ_{10} can also be designated coenzyme $Q(50)$ or $CoQ(50)$. The name CoQ_n can be used to generally refer to both the oxidized form and reduced form of the compound;
30 alternatively, these specific forms can be individually designated CoQ_{nred} and CoQ_{nox} . Chemically, CoQ_{10ox} is known as 2,3-dimethoxy-5-methyl-6-decaprenyl-1,4-benzoquinone, and its structural formula is:

CoQ₁₀

CoQ₁₀ is a model carrier of protons and electrons. It plays a vital role in the mitochondrial respiratory chain and oxidative phosphorylation. It was first isolated by researchers working at the Enzyme Institute of the University of Wisconsin (Crane, *et al.*,
 5 *BBA* 25:220-1, 1975). Currently, Japanese Kaneka Corp. supplies 60 –70 % of CoQ₁₀ sold in the USA.

The oxidized form of CoQ₁₀ (CoQ_{10ox}) has anti-atherogenic properties. Deficiencies in CoQ_{10ox} are associated with higher incidence of heart failure and other cardiovascular problems. Although CoQ₁₀ plays an important role in the development of
 10 cardiovascular disease, there have been data that suggest that the coenzyme also plays an important role in the nervous system. For example, CoQ₁₀ is believed to have beneficial effects in the prevention and treatment of Parkinson's disease, mitochondrial myopathies, muscular dystrophy, etc.

Several attempts have been made to deliver benzenediol derivatives such as CoQ₁₀
 15 to a subject. Selzer disclosed a liquid dietary CoQ₁₀ supplement based on vegetable oil-water emulsion. The absorption of CoQ₁₀ from this formulation was enhanced (U.S. Pat. No. 6,652,891 to Selzer *et al.*).

Herbamed developed a CoQ₁₀ formulation based on Emulsome technology that exhibits superior absorption. The product, called Ultrasome-CoQ₁₀, was tested on end-
 20 stage heart failure patients awaiting cardiac transplantation at the Rabin Medical Center and Sorasky Medical Center, both affiliated with Tel-Aviv University medical school (Berman M, Erman A, Ben-Gal T, Dvir D, Georgiou GP, Stamler A, Vered Y, Vidne BA, Aravot D. Coenzyme Q10 in patients with end-stage heart failure awaiting cardiac transplantation: a randomized, placebo-controlled study. *Clin Cardiol* 2004, 27:295-9).
 25 The product was found to be three times more bioavailable than generic CoQ₁₀. In the double blind trial, 32 patients awaiting heart transplantation received either 60 mg of the product or placebo for three months. The Ultrasome group showed significant

improvement in a six-minute walk test and a decrease in dyspnea (New York Heart Association classification), nocturia, and fatigue, compared to the placebo.

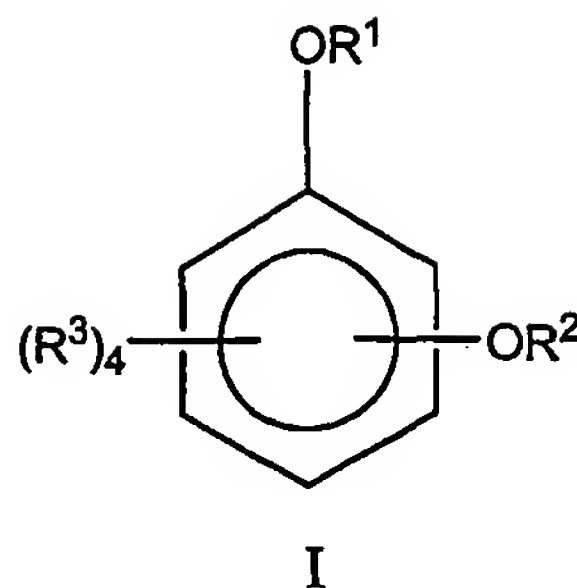
Natural Health Sciences together with General Nutrition Centers developed a blend of Pycnogenol, a French maritime pine bark extract, and CoQ₁₀ called PycnoQ10. Joint
5 research executed at Showa Medical University, Tokyo, and State University of New York suggested that the combination protected 53% of blood lipids from oxidation compared to 30% when the ingredients were used separately. The product protected blood vessel integrity, blood lipid values, circulation, blood pressure, and platelet function. The activity is believed to be derived from the synergy of antioxidant properties.

10 Horrobin describes a physical mixture of CoQ₁₀ and eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA) (Int'l. Pub. No. WO 02/096408 A1). Sears, *et al.*, describes a composition made of CoQ₁₀ and polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFA) such as docosahexaenoic acid (DHA), EPA, or linolenic acid, which is intended for the prevention and/or treatment of mitochondriopathies (U.S. Pat. No. 6,417,233). Formation of the ester between PUFA and
15 CoQ₁₀ is not disclosed. U.S. Pat. Nos. 6,300,377 and 6,441,050 to Chopra disclose a combination of CoQ₁₀ with a polysorbate surfactant, which can also be mixed with other active materials such as omega-3 fatty acids.

In light of the numerous health benefits associated with benzendiol derivatives such as CoQ₁₀, what is needed in the art are new compounds and compositions that can be
20 used to supply such benzendiol derivatives to subjects. Further, what are also needed are new methods of preparing and using such compounds and compositions. The compounds, compositions, and methods disclosed herein meet these needs and other needs.

SUMMARY

In accordance with the purposes of the disclosed materials, compounds,
25 compositions, articles, and methods, as embodied and broadly described herein, the disclosed subject matter, in one aspect, relates to compounds and compositions and methods for preparing and using such compounds and compositions. In another aspect, the disclosed subject matter relates to compounds comprising Formula I:



wherein R^1 is an unsaturated fatty acid residue, R^2 is H or a fatty acid residue, and R^3 is, independently, H, OH, alkyl, alkoxide, alkenyl, or alkynyl. In a further aspect, disclosed herein are nutritional supplements, food stuffs, and pharmaceutical formulations

5 comprising such compounds. In still another aspect, the disclosed subject matter relates to methods of preparing such compounds and compositions. Still further, the disclosed subject matter relates to microcapsules containing such compounds and compositions and to methods of preparing the microcapsules. In yet another aspect, the disclosed subject matter relates to methods of using the described compounds and compositions.

10 Additional advantages will be set forth in part in the description that follows, and in part will be obvious from the description, or may be learned by practice of the aspects described below. The advantages described below will be realized and attained by means of the elements and combinations particularly pointed out in the appended claims. It is to be understood that both the foregoing general description and the following detailed
15 description are exemplary and explanatory only and are not restrictive.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF FIGURES

The accompanying Figures, which are incorporated in and constitute a part of this specification, illustrate several aspects described below.

20 Figure 1 is flow injection analysis of a CoQ₁₀ fatty acid conjugate prepared according to Examples 4-6.

Figure 2 is an ESI mass spectrum obtained from total ion current resulting from flow injection analysis of a CoQ₁₀ fatty acid conjugate that was prepared according to Examples 4-6.

25 Figure 3 is a fragmentation spectrum resulting from selected precursor anions (882.7, 1167.0, and 1193.0) resulting from MS of CoQ₁₀ fatty acid conjugate that was prepared according to Examples 4-6.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The materials, compounds, compositions, articles, and methods described herein may be understood more readily by reference to the following detailed description of specific aspects of the disclosed subject matter and the Examples included therein and to the Figures.

Before the present materials, compounds, compositions, articles, and methods are disclosed and described, it is to be understood that the aspects described below are not limited to specific synthetic methods or specific reagents, as such may, of course, vary. It is also to be understood that the terminology used herein is for the purpose of describing particular aspects only and is not intended to be limiting.

Also, throughout this specification, various publications are referenced. The disclosures of these publications in their entireties are hereby incorporated by reference into this application in order to more fully describe the state of the art to which the disclosed matter pertains. The references disclosed are also individually and specifically incorporated by reference herein for the material contained in them that is discussed in the sentence in which the reference is relied upon.

General Definitions

In this specification and in the claims that follow, reference will be made to a number of terms, which shall be defined to have the following meanings:

Throughout the description and claims of this specification the word "comprise" and other forms of the word, such as "comprising" and "comprises," means including but not limited to, and is not intended to exclude, for example, other additives, components, integers, or steps.

As used in the description and the appended claims, the singular forms "a," "an," and "the" include plural referents unless the context clearly dictates otherwise. Thus, for example, reference to "a compound" includes mixtures of two or more such compounds, reference to "an unsaturated fatty acid" includes mixtures of two or more such unsaturated fatty acids, reference to "the microcapsule" includes mixtures of two or more such microcapsules, and the like.

"Optional" or "optionally" means that the subsequently described event or circumstance can or cannot occur, and that the description includes instances where the event or circumstance occurs and instances where it does not.

Ranges can be expressed herein as from "about" one particular value, and/or to "about" another particular value. When such a range is expressed, another aspect includes

from the one particular value and/or to the other particular value. Similarly, when values are expressed as approximations, by use of the antecedent "about," it will be understood that the particular value forms another aspect. It will be further understood that the endpoints of each of the ranges are significant both in relation to the other endpoint, and independently of the other endpoint. It is also understood that there are a number of values disclosed herein, and that each value is also herein disclosed as "about" that particular value in addition to the value itself. For example, if the value "10" is disclosed, then "about 10" is also disclosed. It is also understood that when a value is disclosed then "less than or equal to" the value, "greater than or equal to the value" and possible ranges between values are also disclosed, as appropriately understood by the skilled artisan. For example, if the value "10" is disclosed, then "less than or equal to 10" as well as "greater than or equal to 10" is also disclosed. It is also understood that throughout the application data are provided in a number of different formats and that these data represent endpoints and starting points and ranges for any combination of the data points. For example, if a particular data point "10" and a particular data point "15" are disclosed, it is understood that greater than, greater than or equal to, less than, less than or equal to, and equal to 10 and 15 are considered disclosed as well as between 10 and 15. It is also understood that each unit between two particular units are also disclosed. For example, if 10 and 15 are disclosed, then 11, 12, 13, and 14 are also disclosed.

References in the specification and concluding claims to parts by weight of a particular element or component in a composition denotes the weight relationship between the element or component and any other elements or components in the composition or article for which a part by weight is expressed. Thus, in a compound containing 2 parts by weight of component X and 5 parts by weight component Y, X and Y are present at a weight ratio of 2:5, and are present in such ratio regardless of whether additional components are contained in the compound.

A weight percent of a component, unless specifically stated to the contrary, is based on the total weight of the formulation or composition in which the component is included.

As used herein, the term "substituted" is contemplated to include all permissible substituents of organic compounds. In a broad aspect, the permissible substituents include acyclic and cyclic, branched and unbranched, carbocyclic and heterocyclic, and aromatic and nonaromatic substituents of organic compounds. Illustrative substituents include, for example, those described below. The permissible substituents can be one or more and the

same or different for appropriate organic compounds. For purposes of this disclosure, the heteroatoms, such as nitrogen or oxygen, can have hydrogen substituents and/or any permissible substituents of organic compounds described herein which satisfy the valencies of the heteroatoms. This disclosure is not intended to be limited in any manner by the permissible substituents of organic compounds. Also, the terms "substitution" or "substituted with" include the implicit proviso that such substitution is in accordance with permitted valence of the substituted atom and the substituent, and that the substitution results in a stable compound, *e.g.*, a compound that does not spontaneously undergo transformation such as by rearrangement, cyclization, elimination, etc.

10 The term "alkyl" as used herein is a branched or unbranched saturated hydrocarbon group of 1 to 40 carbon atoms, such as methyl, ethyl, *n*-propyl, *i*-propyl, *n*-butyl, *i*-butyl, *s*-butyl, *t*-butyl, pentyl, hexyl, heptyl, octyl, nonyl, decyl, dodecyl, tetradecyl, hexadecyl, eicosyl, tetracosyl, and the like. The alkyl group can also be substituted or unsubstituted. The alkyl group can be substituted with one or more groups including, but not limited to, 15 alkyl, halogenated alkyl, alkoxy, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, aldehyde, amino, carboxylic acid, ester, ether, halide, hydroxy, ketone, nitro, silyl, sulfo-oxo, or thiol, as described below.

The term "alkoxy" or "alkoxide" as used herein is an alkyl group bound through a single, terminal ether linkage; that is, an "alkoxy" group may be defined as -OA where A is alkyl as defined above.

20 The term "alkenyl" as used herein is a hydrocarbon group of from 2 to 40 carbon atoms with a structural formula containing at least one carbon-carbon double bond. Asymmetric structures such as (AB)C=C(DE) are intended to include both the *E* and *Z* isomers (*cis* and *trans*). This may be presumed in structural formulae herein wherein an asymmetric alkene is present, or it may be explicitly indicated by the bond symbol C=C. 25 The alkenyl group can be unsubstituted or substituted with one or more groups including, but not limited to, alkyl, halogenated alkyl, alkoxy, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, aldehyde, amino, carboxylic acid, ester, ether, halide, hydroxy, ketone, nitro, silyl, sulfo-oxo, or thiol, as described below.

The term "alkynyl" as used herein is a hydrocarbon group of 2 to 40 carbon atoms 30 with a structural formula containing at least one carbon-carbon triple bond. The alkynyl group can be unsubstituted or substituted with one or more groups including, but not limited to, alkyl, halogenated alkyl, alkoxy, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, aldehyde, amino, carboxylic acid, ester, ether, halide, hydroxy, ketone, nitro, silyl, sulfo-oxo, or thiol, as described below.

The term "aryl" as used herein is a group that contains any carbon-based aromatic group including, but not limited to, benzene, naphthalene, phenyl, biphenyl, phenoxybenzene, and the like. The term "aryl" also includes "heteroaryl," which is defined as a group that contains an aromatic group that has at least one heteroatom
5 incorporated within the ring of the aromatic group. Examples of heteroatoms include, but are not limited to, nitrogen, oxygen, sulfur, and phosphorus. The aryl group can be substituted or unsubstituted. The aryl group can be substituted with one or more groups including, but not limited to, alkyl, halogenated alkyl, alkoxy, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, aldehyde, amino, carboxylic acid, ester, ether, halide, hydroxy, ketone, nitro, silyl, sulfo-
10 oxo, or thiol as described herein.

Unless stated to the contrary, a formula with chemical bonds shown only as solid lines and not as wedges or dashed lines contemplates each possible isomer, *e.g.*, each enantiomer and diastereomer, and a mixture of isomers, such as a racemic or scalemic mixtures.

15 As used herein, by a "subject" is meant an individual. Thus, the "subject" can include domesticated animals (*e.g.*, cats, dogs, etc.), livestock (*e.g.*, cattle, horses, pigs, sheep, goats, etc.), laboratory animals (*e.g.*, mouse, rabbit, rat, guinea pig, etc.), and birds. "Subject" can also include a mammal, such as a primate or a human.

The term "increase," or other forms of increase, such as "increasing," refers to an
20 increase in an event or characteristic above basal levels, *e.g.*, as compared to a control. The terms "reduces" or "lowers," or other forms the words, such as "reducing," "reduction," or "lowering," refers to a decrease in an event or characteristic below basal levels, *e.g.*, as compared to a control. By "control" is meant either a subject, organ, tissue, or cell lacking a disease or injury, or a subject, organ, tissue, or cell in the absence of a
25 particular variable such as a therapeutic agent. A subject, organ, tissue, or cell in the absence of a therapeutic agent can be the same subject, organ, tissue, or cell before or after treatment with a therapeutic agent or can be a different subject, organ, tissue, or cell in the absence of the therapeutic agent. Comparison to a control can include a comparison to a known control level or value known in the art. Thus, basal levels are normal *in vivo* or *in*
30 *vitro* levels prior to, or in the absence of, the addition of an agent (*e.g.*, a therapeutic agent) or another molecule.

By "prevent" or other forms of prevent, such as "preventing" or "prevention," is meant to stop a particular event or characteristic, to stabilize or delay the development or progression of a particular event or characteristic, or to minimize the chances that a

particular event or characteristic will occur. Prevention does not require comparison to a control as it is typically more absolute than, for example, reduce or lower. As used herein, something could be reduced or lowered but not prevented, but something that is reduced or lowered could also be prevented. Likewise, something could be prevented but not reduced or lowered, but something that is prevented could also be reduced or lowered. It is understood that where reduce, lowered, or prevent are used, unless specifically indicated otherwise, the use of the other two words is also expressly disclosed. Thus, if lowering cholesterol levels is disclosed, then reducing and preventing cholesterol levels are also disclosed, and the like.

By "treat" or other forms of treat, such as "treated" or "treatment," is meant to administer a composition disclosed herein or to perform a method disclosed herein in order to reduce or prevent a particular characteristic or event (*e.g.*, mitochondrial disease).

Reference will now be made in detail to specific aspects of the disclosed materials, compounds, compositions, articles, and methods, examples of which are illustrated in the accompanying Examples and Figures.

Materials

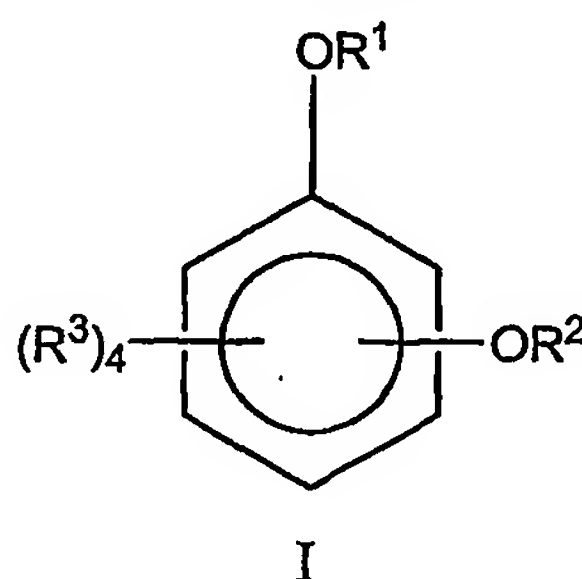
Disclosed herein are materials, compounds, compositions, and components that can be used for, can be used in conjunction with, can be used in preparation for, or are products of the disclosed methods and compositions. These and other materials are disclosed herein, and it is understood that when combinations, subsets, interactions, groups, etc. of these materials are disclosed that while specific reference of each various individual and collective combinations and permutation of these compounds may not be explicitly disclosed, each is specifically contemplated and described herein. For example, if a compound is disclosed and a number of modifications that can be made to a number of components or residues of the compound are discussed, each and every combination and permutation that are possible are specifically contemplated unless specifically indicated to the contrary. Thus, if a class of components or residues A, B, and C are disclosed as well as a class of components or residues D, E, and F, and an example of a combination compound A-D is disclosed, then even if each is not individually recited, each is individually and collectively contemplated. Thus, in this example, each of the combinations A-E, A-F, B-D, B-E, B-F, C-D, C-E, and C-F are specifically contemplated and should be considered disclosed from disclosure of A, B, and C; D, E, and F; and the example combination A-D. Likewise, any subset or combination of these is also specifically contemplated and disclosed. Thus, for example, the sub-group of A-E, B-F,

and C-E are specifically contemplated and should be considered disclosed from disclosure of A, B, and C; D, E, and F; and the example combination A-D. This concept applies to all aspects of this disclosure including, but not limited to, steps in methods of making and using the disclosed compositions. Thus, if there are a variety of additional steps that can
5 be performed it is understood that each of these additional steps can be performed with any specific aspect or combination of aspects of the disclosed methods, and that each such combination is specifically contemplated and should be considered disclosed.

Certain materials, compounds, compositions, and components disclosed herein can be obtained commercially or can be readily synthesized using techniques generally known
10 to those of skill in the art. For example, the starting materials and reagents used in preparing the disclosed compounds and compositions are either available from commercial suppliers such as Aldrich Chemical Co., (Milwaukee, Wis.), Acros Organics (Morris Plains, N.J.), Fisher Scientific (Pittsburgh, Pa.), or Sigma (St. Louis, Mo.) or are prepared by methods known to those skilled in the art following procedures set forth in
15 references such as Fieser and Fieser's Reagents for Organic Synthesis, Volumes 1-17 (John Wiley and Sons, 1991); Rodd's Chemistry of Carbon Compounds, Volumes 1-5 and Supplementals (Elsevier Science Publishers, 1989); Organic Reactions, Volumes 1-40 (John Wiley and Sons, 1991); March's Advanced Organic Chemistry, (John Wiley and Sons, 4th Edition); and Larock's Comprehensive Organic Transformations (VCH
20 Publishers Inc., 1989).

Quinone derivative-fatty acid compounds

Disclosed herein, in one aspect, are compounds that comprise Formula I:



25 wherein R¹ is an unsaturated fatty acid residue, R² is H or a fatty acid residue, and R³ is, independently, H, OH, alkyl, alkoxide, alkenyl, or alkynyl. The term "residue" as used herein refers to the moiety that is the resulting product of the specified chemical species in a particular reaction scheme or subsequent formulation or chemical product, regardless of whether the moiety is actually obtained from the specified chemical species.

For example, an “unsaturated fatty acid residue” refers to the moiety which results when an unsaturated fatty acid participates in a particular reaction (*e.g.*, the residue can be an unsaturated fatty acyl group RCO- or acyloxy group RCOO-). It is understood that this moiety can be obtained by a reaction with a species other than the specified unsaturated fatty acid, for example, by a reaction with an unsaturated fatty acid halide, ester, thioester, amide, or anhydride. According to the methods disclosed herein, compounds comprising Formula I and compositions comprising such compounds can be administered to a subject and provide numerous health benefits, as described more fully below.

Many fatty acids are healthy oils that can serve as suitable vehicles for delivering various nutraceuticals such as vitamins, phytosterols, minerals, metals, trace elements, and particularly molecules like coenzymes, such as CoQ₁₀. This can be achieved either by a simple physical mixing, sometimes involving technologies such as nanoparticling, or by a chemical bond. The use of oils and their concentrates with proven health benefits, such as those with a high content of omega-3 fatty acids, can add to the functionality of the product. The product can then become bi-functional by combining both the activity of the original substance to be delivered (*e.g.*, CoQ₁₀), with well known cardiovascular benefits of healthy oils (*e.g.*, omega-3 fatty acids). (*See Dyrberg, et al.*, In: *ω-3 Fatty Acids: Prevention and Treatment of Vascular Disease*, Kristensen, *et al.*, eds., Bi & Gi Publ., Verona-Springer-Verlag, London, pp. 217-26, 1995; O’Keefe and Harris, *Am J Cardiology* 85:1239-41, 2000, which are incorporated by reference herein for their teachings of fatty acids and omega-3 fatty acids). Therefore, the disclosed compounds and compositions can be beneficial because they combine benzenediol-derivatives with fatty acids (*e.g.*, those derived from fish oils and those containing omega-3 fatty acids).

R¹ and R²

General fatty acids and residues

The disclosed compounds can comprise one or more fatty acids or residues thereof (*e.g.*, R¹ and R² in Formula I). By “fatty acid” is meant a carboxylic acid with at least 10 carbon atoms. In one aspect, the fatty acids and residues thereof can comprise at least 10, at least 12, at least 14, at least 16, at least 18, or at least 20 carbon atoms. In some specific examples, the fatty acids and residues thereof can contain 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, or 45 carbon atoms, where any of the stated values can form an upper or lower endpoint when appropriate. In other examples, the fatty acids and residues thereof can comprise a mixture of fatty acids and residues thereof having a range of carbon atoms.

For example, the fatty acids and residues thereof can comprise from about 10 to about 40, from about 12 to about 38, from about 14 to about 36, from about 16 to about 34, from about 18 to about 32, or from about 20 to 30 carbon atoms.

The fatty acids and residues thereof suitable for uses disclosed herein can be saturated, unsaturated, or a mixture of saturated and unsaturated fatty acids. By “saturated” is meant that the molecule or residue contains no carbon-carbon double or triple bonds. By “unsaturated” is meant that the molecule or residue contains at least one carbon-carbon double or triple bond. In one aspect, the substituent R^1 in Formula I can be an unsaturated fatty acid residue and the substituent R^2 can be either H, an unsaturated fatty acid residue, or a saturated fatty acid residue.

The fatty acids and residues thereof that can be used in the disclosed compounds and methods can be derived from any source. In one specific example, the fatty acids and residues thereof can be derived from fish oil. Such oils typically contain mixtures of saturated and unsaturated fatty acids, but can be processed to result in a particular mixture of fatty acids (*e.g.*, containing all saturated, all unsaturated, mixtures of both, or mixtures with fatty acids of a certain chain length or range of chain lengths). Any fish oil can be used in the disclosed compounds and methods. Specific examples of suitable fish oils include, but are not limited to, Atlantic fish oils, Pacific fish oils, Mediterranean fish oils, light pressed fish oil, alkaline treated fish oil, heat treated fish oil, light and heavy brown fish oil, tuna oil, sea bass oil, halibut oil, spearfish oil, barracuda oil, cod oil, menhaden oil, sardine oil, anchovy oil, capelin oil, Atlantic cod oil, Atlantic herring oil, Atlantic mackerel oil, Atlantic menhaden oil, salmonids oil, shark oil, and the like.

Saturated fatty acids

Any saturated fatty acid or residue thereof can be used in the compounds and methods disclosed herein, as R^2 in Formula I for example. Examples of specific saturated fatty acids and residues thereof that are suitable for the compounds and methods disclosed herein include, but are not limited to, capric acid (C10), lauric acid (C12), myristic acid (C14), palmitic acid (C16), margaric acid (C17), stearic acid (C18), arachidic acid (C20), behenic acid (C22), lignoceric acid (C24), cerotic acid (C26), montanic acid (C28), and melissic acid (C30), including branched and substituted derivatives thereof.

Unsaturated fatty acids

The unsaturated fatty acids and residues thereof that are suitable for the compounds and methods disclosed herein, as R^1 and R^2 in Formula I for example can comprise at least one unsaturated bond (*i.e.*, a carbon-carbon double or triple bond). In

one example, the unsaturated fatty acids and residues thereof can comprise at least 2, at least 3, at least 4, at least 5, at least 6, at least 7, at least 8, at least 9, or at least 10 carbon-carbon double bonds, triple bonds, or any combination thereof. In another example, the unsaturated fatty acids or residues thereof can comprise 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, or 10
 5 unsaturated bonds, where any of the stated values can form an upper or lower endpoint when appropriate.

Monoene acids and residues

In one aspect, the unsaturated fatty acids or residues thereof can comprise one carbon-carbon double bond (*i.e.*, a monoene acid or residue). Examples of unsaturated
 10 fatty acids and residues thereof that are suitable for the compounds and methods disclosed herein include, but are not limited to, those in the following Table 1.

Table 1: Examples of Monoene Acids and Residues	
Total number of carbon atoms in the fatty acid or residue chain.	Carbon number where double bond begins. ("c" denotes a cis double bond; "t" denotes a trans double bond)
10	4c
12	4c
14	4c 9c
16	3t 4c 5t 6c 6t 9c (palmitooleic) 11c
18	3t 5c 5t 6c (petroselinic) 6t 9c (oleic) 10c 11c (cis-vaccenic) 11t (trans-vaccenic) 13c
20	5c 9c (gadolenic) 11c 13c 15c
22	5c 11c (cetoleic) 13c (erucic)

	15c
24	15c (selacholeic, nervonic)
26	9c 17c (ximenic)
28	9c 19c (lumequic)
30	21c

Polyene acids and residues (methylene interrupted)

In another aspect, the unsaturated fatty acids and residues thereof can comprise at least two unsaturated bonds (*e.g.*, polyene acids or residues). In some examples, the unsaturated fatty acids and residues thereof can comprise at least one pair of methylene interrupted unsaturated bonds. By "methylene interrupted unsaturated bond" is meant that one carbon-carbon double or triple bond is separated from another carbon-carbon double or triple bond by at least one methylene group (*i.e.*, CH₂). Specific examples of unsaturated fatty acids that contain at least one pair of methylene interrupted unsaturated bonds include, but are not limited to, the n-1 family derived from 9,12,15-16:3; n-2 family derived from 9,12, 15-17:3, 15:3, 17:3, 17:4, 20:4; n-3 family derived from 9,12, 15-18:3, 15:2, 15:3, 15:4, 16:3, 16:4, 18:3 (α -linolenic), 18:4, 18:5, 20:2, 20:3, 20:4; 20:5 (EPA), 21:5, 22:3, 22:5 (DPA), 22:6 (DHA), 24:3, 24:4, 24:5, 24:6, 26:5, 26:6, 28:7, 30:5; n-4 family derived from 9,12-16:2, 16:2, 16:3, 18:2, 18:3; n-5 family derived from 9, 12-17:2, 15:2, 17:2, 17:3, 19:2, 19:4, 20:3, 20:4, 21:4, 21:5; n-6 family derived from 9, 12-18:2, 15:2, 16:2, 18:2 (linoleic acid), 18:3 (γ -linolenic acid); 20:2, 20:3, 20:4 (arachidonic acid), 22:2, 22:3, 22:4 (adrenic acid), 22:5, 24:2, 24:4, 25:2, 26:2, 30:4; n-7 family derived from 9-16:1, 15:2, 16:2, 17:2, 18:2, 19:2; n-8 family derived from 9-17:1, 15:2, 16:2, 17:2, 18:2, 19:2; n-9 family derived from 9-18:1, 17:2, 18:2, 20:2, 20:3, 22:3, 22:4; n-11 family 19:2, and the n-12 family 20:2.

In the above paragraph, the compounds are identified referring first to the "n-x family," where x is the position in the fatty acid where the first double bond begins. The numbering scheme begins at the terminal end of the fatty acid, where, for example, the terminal CH₃ group is designated position 1. In this sense, the n-3 family would be an omega 3 fatty acid, as described herein. The next number identifies the total number of carbon atoms in the fatty acid. The third number, which is after the colon, designates the total number of double bonds in the fatty acid. So, for example, in the n-1 family, 16:3, refers to a 16 carbon long fatty acid with 3 double bonds, each separated by a methylene, wherein the first double bond begins at position 1, *i.e.*, the terminal end of the fatty acid.

In another example, in the n-6 family, 18:3, refers to an 18 carbon long fatty acid with 3 methylene interrupted double bonds beginning at position 6, *i.e.*, the sixth carbon from the terminal end of the fatty acid, and so forth.

- Some other examples of fatty acids and residues thereof are those that contain at least one pair of unsaturated bonds interrupted by more than one methylene group. Suitable examples of these acids and residues thereof include, but are not limited to, those in the following Table 2:

Table 2: Examples of Polyene Acids and Residues with Double Bonds Interrupted by Several Methylene Units	
Total number of carbon atoms in the fatty acid or residue chain.	Carbon number where double bond begins. ("c" denotes a cis double bond; "t" denotes a trans double bond)
18	5, 9 5, 11 2t, 9, 12 3t, 9, 12 5t, 9, 12 5, 9, 12 5, 11, 14 3t, 9, 12, 15 5, 9, 12, 15
20	5, 11 5, 13 7, 11 7, 13 5, 11, 14 7, 11, 14 5, 11, 14, 17
22	5, 11 5, 13 7, 13 7, 15 7, 17 9, 13 9, 15

Polyene acids and residues (conjugated)

- Still other examples of unsaturated fatty acids and residues thereof that are suitable for use in the compounds and methods disclosed herein are those that contain at least one conjugated unsaturated bond. By "conjugated unsaturated bond" is meant that at least one pair of carbon-carbon double and/or triple bonds are bonded together, without a methylene (CH₂) group between them (*e.g.*, -CH=CH-CH=CH-). Specific examples of unsaturated

fatty acids that contain conjugated unsaturated bonds include, but are not limited to, those in the following Table 3.

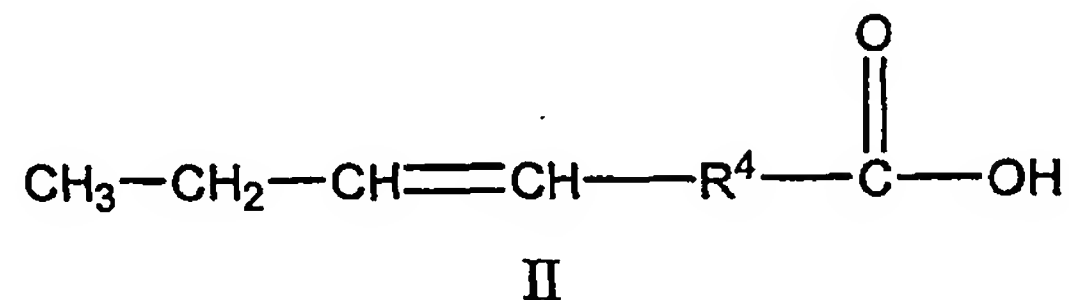
Table 3: Examples of Conjugated Polyene Acids and Residues	
Total number of carbon atoms in the fatty acid or residue chain.	Carbon number where double bond begins. ("c" denotes a cis double bond; "t" denotes a trans double bond)
10	2t, 4t, 6c 2c, 4t, 6t 3t, 5t, 7c 3c, 5t, 7t
12	3, 5, 7, 9, 11
14	3, 5, 7, 9, 11
18	10t, 12t 8c, 10t, 12c (jacaric) 8t, 10t, 12c (calendic) 8t, 10t, 12t 9t, 11t, 13c (catalpic) 9c, 11t, 13t (α -eleostearic) 9c, 11t, 13c (punicic) 9t, 11t, 13t (β -eleostearic) 9c, 11t, 13t, 15c (α -parinaric) 9t, 11t, 13t, 15t (β -parinaric)

5 Omega-3 fatty acids

Omega-3 fatty acids are certain unsaturated fatty acids that are particularly useful in the compounds and methods disclosed herein. Omega-3 fatty acids not only exhibit proven effects on lowering serum triglyceride levels, but they have strong connection to diabetes. For instance, docosahexaenoic acid (DHA) also has a strong insulin permeability enhancement effect, and it is viewed as a potential absorption enhancer for intestinal delivery of insulin (Onuki, *et al.*, *Int J Pharm* 198:147-56, 2000). DHA intake can prevent certain biochemical processes that originate from insulin deficiency (Ovide-Bordeaux and Grynberg, *Am J Physiol Regul Integr Comp Physiol* 286:R519-27, 2003) and both DHA and EPA (eicosapentaenoic acid) can significantly increase fasting insulin levels (Mori, *et al.*, *Am J Clin Nutr* 71:1085-94, 2000).

An omega-3 fatty acid is an unsaturated fatty acid that contains as its terminus $\text{CH}_3\text{-CH}_2\text{-CH=CH-}$. Specific examples of omega-3 fatty acids that are suitable for use herein include, but are not limited to, linolenic acid ($18:3\omega 3$), octadecatetraenoic acid ($18:4\omega 3$), eicosapentaenoic acid ($20:5\omega 3$) (EPA), docosahexaenoic acid ($22:6\omega 3$) (DHA), docosapentaenoic acid ($22:6\omega 3$) (DPA), derivatives thereof, and combinations thereof.

In still other examples, the unsaturated fatty acids or residues thereof can be derived from a compound comprising Formula II:



- 5 wherein R⁴ can be a C₃-C₄₀ alkyl or alkenyl group comprising at least one double bond. In a further example, R⁴ can be a C₅-C₃₈, C₆-C₃₆, C₈-C₃₄, C₁₀-C₃₂, C₁₂-C₃₀, C₁₄-C₂₈, C₁₆-C₂₆, or C₁₈-C₂₄ alkenyl group. In yet another example, the alkenyl group of R⁴ can have from 2 to 6, from 3 to 6, from 4 to 6, or from 5 to 6 double bonds. Still further, the alkenyl group of R⁴ can have from 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6 double bonds, where any of the stated values can
10 form an upper or lower endpoint when appropriate.

Exemplary unsaturated fatty acids

- Some examples of unsaturated fatty acids and residues derived therefrom that can be used in the compounds and methods disclosed herein include, but are not limited to, linoleic acid, linolenic acid, γ-linolenic acid, arachidonic acid, mead acid, stearidonic acid,
15 α-eleostearic acid, eleostearic acid, pinolenic acid, docosadienic acid, docosatetraenoic acid, docosapentaenoic acid, docosahexaenoic acid, octadecadienoic acid, octadecatrienoic acid, eicosatetraenoic acid, eicosapentaenoic, or any combination thereof. In one aspect, the unsaturated fatty acid residue can be derived from eicosapentaenoic acid 20:5ω3 (EPA), docosahexaenoic acid 22:6ω3 (DHA), docosapentaenoic acid 22:5ω3 (DPA), and
20 any combination thereof.

Unsaturated with triple bonds

- Additional examples of suitable unsaturated fatty acids and residues thereof which are suitable in the disclosed compounds and methods include, but are not limited to, allenic and acetylenic acids, such as, C₁₄: 2, 4, 5; C₁₈: 5, 6 (laballenic); 5, 6, 16
25 (lamenallenic); C₁₈: 6a (tarinic); 9a; 9a, 11t (ximenynic); 9a, 11a; 9a, 11a, 13c (bolekic); 9a, 11a, 13a, 15e, 8a, 10t (pyrulic) 9c, 12a (crepenynic); 9c, 12a, 14c (dehydrocrepenynic acid); 6a, 9c, 12c; 6a, 9c, 12c, 15c, 8a, 11c, 14c and corresponding Δ¹⁷e derivatives, 8-OH, derivatives and Δ¹⁷e, 8-OH derivatives.

Additional fatty acids

- 30 Branched-chain acids, particularly iso-acids and anteiso acids, polymethyl branched acids, phytol based acids (e.g., phytanic, pristanic), furanoid acids are also

suitable fatty acids, including the residues derived therefrom, for use in the compounds and methods disclosed herein.

Still further, suitable fatty acids and residues thereof include, but are not limited to, cyclic acids, such as cyclopropane fatty acids, cyclopropene acids (*e.g.*, lactobacillic),
 5 sterulic, malvalic, sterculynic, 2-hydroxysterculic, aleprolic, alepramic, aleprestic, aleprylic alepric, hydnocarpic, chaulmoogric hormelic, manaoic, gorlic, oncobic, cyclopentenyl acids, cyclohexylalkanoic acids, and any combination thereof.

Hydroxy acids, such as butolic, ricinoleic, isoricinoleic, densipolic, lesquerolic, and auriolic, are also suitable fatty acids that can be used in the compounds and methods
 10 disclosed herein.

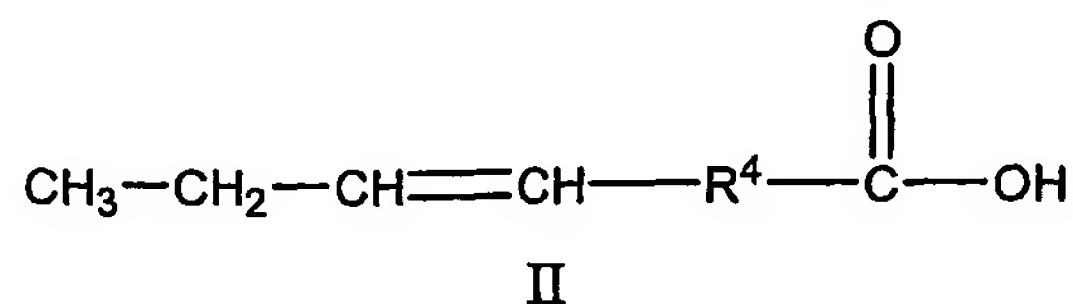
Epoxy acids, such as epoxidated C18:1 and C18:2, and furanoid acids, are further examples of fatty acids that can be used in the disclosed compounds and methods.

Permutations of R¹ and R²

In one aspect, the disclosed compounds comprising Formula I can have R¹ being
 15 any of the unsaturated fatty acid residues disclosed above. Further, in another aspect, the disclosed compounds can have R¹ being any of the unsaturated fatty acid residues disclosed above and R² can be H. In yet another aspect, the disclosed compounds can have R¹ and R² each being any of the unsaturated fatty acid residues disclosed above. For example, R¹ and R² can be the same unsaturated fatty acid residue or, in another example,
 20 R¹ and R² can be different unsaturated fatty acid residues. In a further aspect, R¹ can be any of the unsaturated fatty acid residues disclosed above and R² can be any of the saturated fatty acid residues disclosed above.

In some particular examples, R¹ and R² can be unsaturated fatty acid residues derived from fish oil. In other examples, R¹ and R² can be unsaturated fatty acid residues
 25 comprising at least 20 carbon atoms. In yet other examples, R¹ and R² can be unsaturated fatty acid residues comprising at least one pair of methylene interrupted unsaturated bonds. In still other examples, R¹ and R² can be unsaturated fatty acid residues derived from an omega-3 fatty acid.

In other specific examples of the disclosed compounds, R¹ and R² can be
 30 unsaturated fatty acid residues derived from a compound comprising Formula II:



wherein R^4 can a C_3 - C_{40} alkyl or alkenyl group comprising at least one double bond. In one example, R^4 can be from 2 to 6 double bonds.

In other specific examples, R^1 and R^2 can be unsaturated fatty acid residues derived from linoleic acid, linolenic acid, gamma-linolenic acid, arachidonic acid, mead
5 acid, stearidonic acid, alpha-eleostearic acid, eleostearic acid, pinolenic acid, docosadienic acid, docosatetraenoic acid, octadecadienoic acid, octadecatrienoic acid, eicosatetraenoic acid, or any combination thereof. In further examples, R^1 and R^2 can be unsaturated fatty acid residues derived from eicosapentaenoic acid 20:5 ω 3 (EPA), docosahexaenoic acid 22:6 ω 3 (DHA), docosapentaenoic acid 22:5 ω 3 (DPA), or any combination thereof.

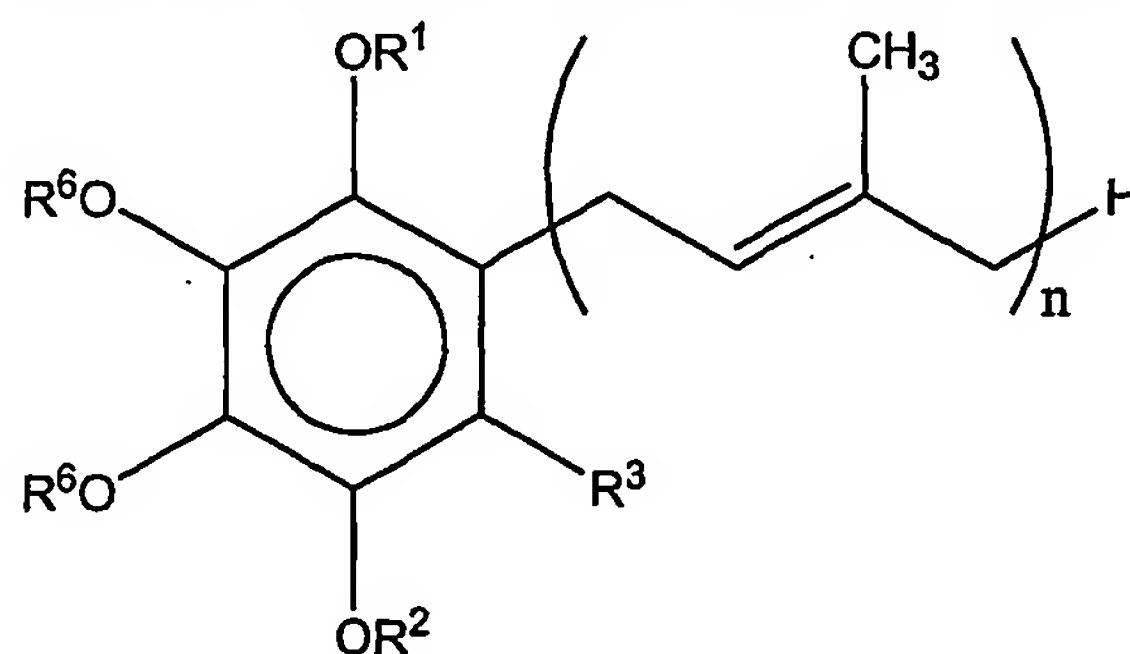
10 In one aspect, the disclosed compounds comprising Formula I can have substituents OR^1 and OR^2 in the ortho-, meta-, or para-positions.

R^3

In one aspect, the disclosed compounds comprising Formula I can have R^3 being, independently, H, OH, alkyl, alkoxide, alkenyl, or alkynyl, as described above. For
15 example, at least one R^3 substituent can be a methyl, ethyl, or propyl. In another example, at least one R^3 substituent can be a methoxide, ethoxide, or propoxide. In yet another example, at least one R^3 substituent can be a alkenyl group having the formula $-[CH_2CH=C(CH_3)CH_2-]_n-H$, where n is an integer of from 1 to 12. In still another example, one R^3 substituent in Formula I can be $-[CH_2CH=C(CH_3)CH_2-]_n-H$, where n is
20 an integer of from 1 to 12, one R^3 substituent can be methyl, and two R^3 substituents can be methoxy.

Exemplary Compounds

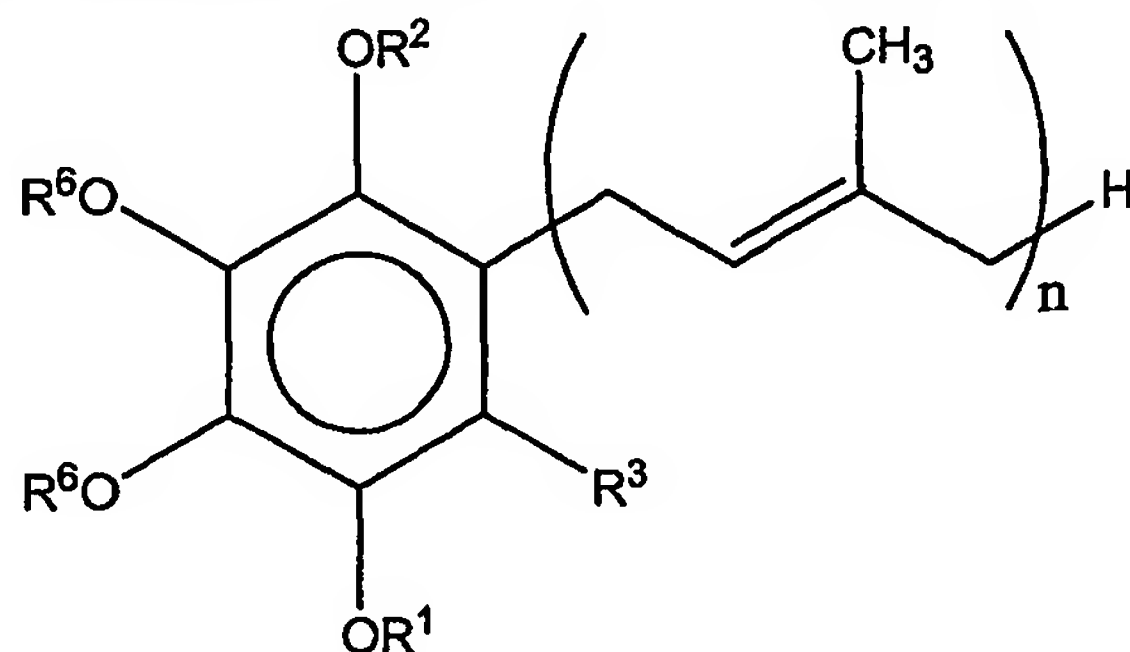
Some additional examples of compounds disclosed and described herein can include, but are not limited to, compounds comprising the following Formula IV:



IV

wherein, as described above for Formula I, R^1 is an unsaturated fatty acid residue, R^2 is H or a fatty acid residue, and R^3 and each R^6 is an alkyl group and n is from 1 to 12.

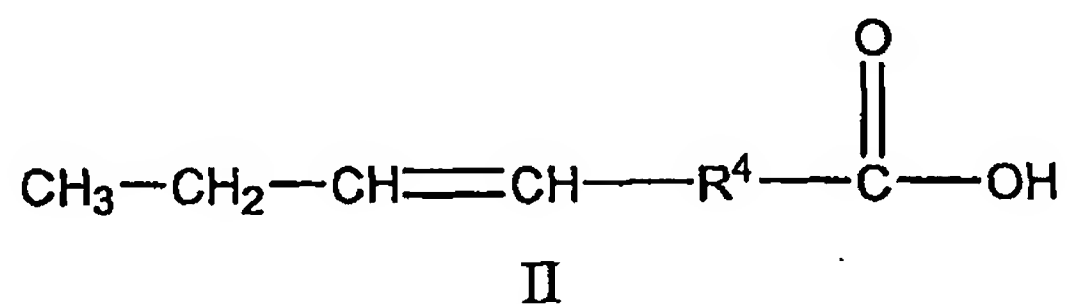
It should be understood that in Formula IV substituents R^1 and R^2 can be interchangeable. That is, Formula IV can also be written as shown:



IV

In Formula IV, the unsaturated fatty acid residues of R^1 and fatty acid residues (saturated or unsaturated) of R^2 can be any fatty acid as described herein. In one example, R^1 can be any unsaturated fatty acid residue as described herein. In another example, R^1 and R^2 can be any unsaturated fatty acid residue as described herein. In yet another example, either R^1 or R^2 or both R^1 and R^2 can be derived from fish oil. In another example, either R^1 or R^2 or both R^1 and R^2 can comprise at least 20 carbon atoms. In still another example, either R^1 or R^2 or both R^1 and R^2 can be an unsaturated fatty acid residue comprising at least one pair of methylene interrupted unsaturated bonds.

In one aspect, either R^1 or R^2 or both R^1 and R^2 can be derived from an omega-3 fatty acid. For example, either R^1 or R^2 or both R^1 and R^2 can be unsaturated fatty acid residues derived from a compound comprising Formula II:

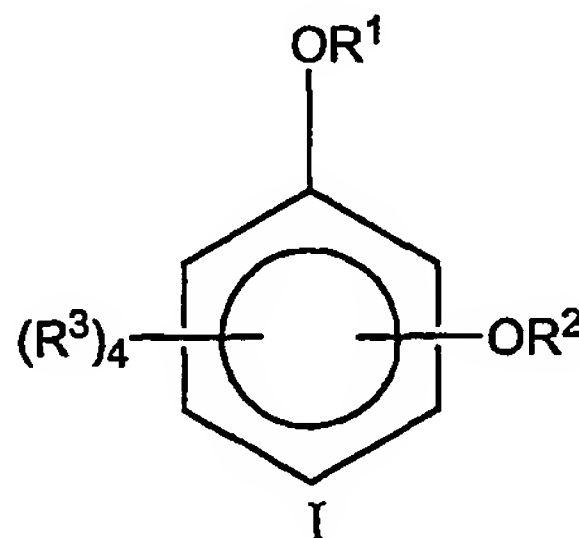


wherein R^4 can be a C_3 - C_{40} alkyl or alkenyl group comprising at least one double bond. R^4 can have from, for example, 2 to 6 double bonds or from 3 to 5 double bonds. In yet another example, either R^1 or R^2 or both R^1 and R^2 can be derived from linoleic acid, linolenic acid, gamma-linolenic acid, arachidonic acid, mead acid, stearidonic acid, alpha-eleostearic acid, eleostearic acid, pinolenic acid, docosadienic acid, docosatetraenoic acid, octadecadienoic acid, octadecatrienoic acid, eicosatetraenoic acid, or any combination

thereof. In still another example, either R^1 or R^2 or both R^1 and R^2 can be derived from eicosapentaenoic acid 20:5 ω 3 (EPA), docosahexaenoic acid 22:6 ω 3 (DHA), docosapentaenoic acid 22:5 ω 3 (DPA), or any combination thereof.

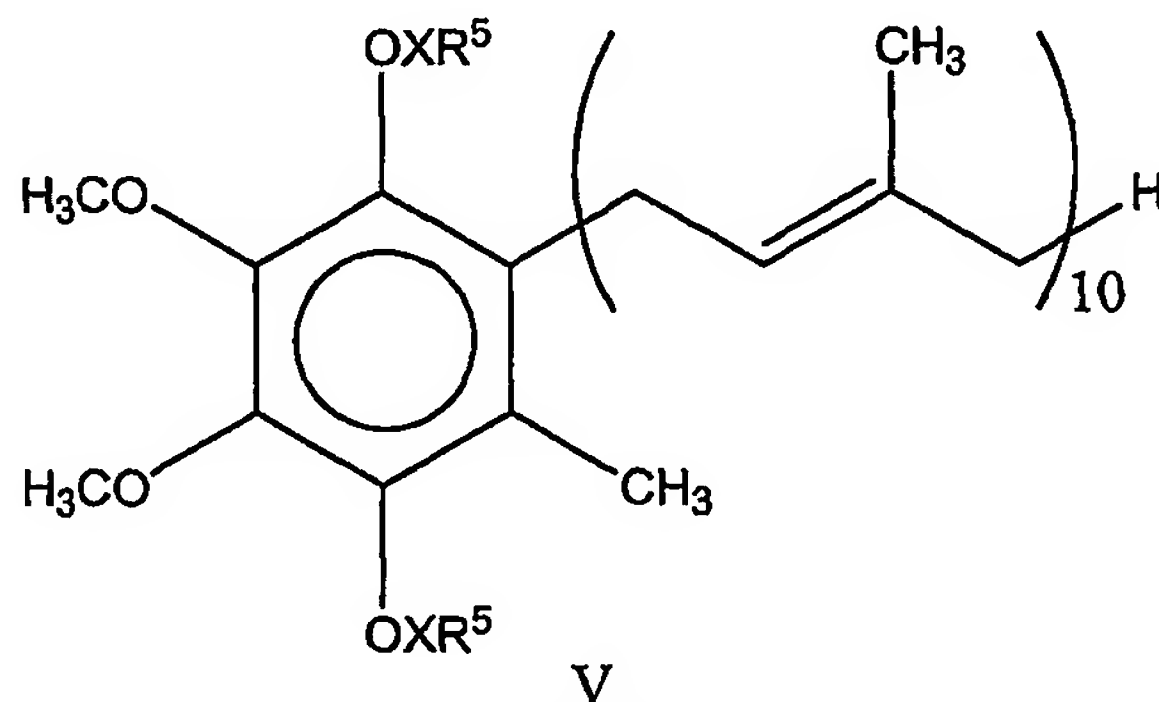
In one particular aspect, disclosed herein is a compound, comprising Formula I:

5



wherein R^1 is a fatty acid residue, R^2 is, independently, a H or a fatty acid residue; and R^3 is, independently, H, OH, alkyl, alkoxyl, alkenyl, or alkynyl, and wherein the compound is not Formula V

10



wherein R^5 is a linear or branched alkyl group with 1 to 20 carbon atoms, or an aryl group, optionally substituted with alkyl from 1 to 6 carbon atoms and X is absent or a CO group.

15

Additional properties

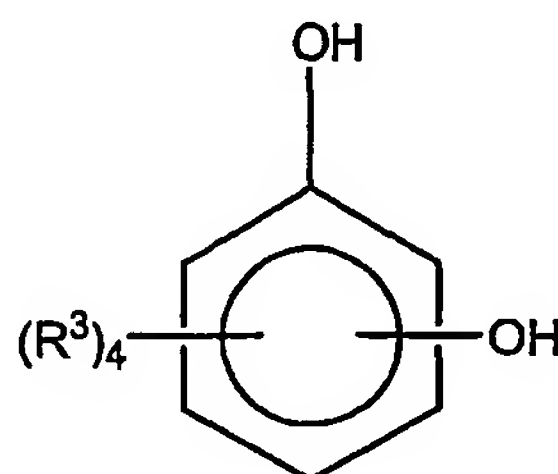
The disclosed compounds can be, in one aspect, bioavailable. "Bioavailable" means that a compound is in a form that allows for it, or a portion of the amount administered, to be absorbed by, incorporated into, or otherwise physiologically available to a subject or patient to whom it is administered.

20

Further, chemical coupling benzenediol derivatives with fatty acids, as disclosed herein, can yield syrup-like compounds that are more palatable than a corresponding heterogeneous solid/liquid mixture.

Methods of Making

Also disclosed herein are methods for preparing the disclosed compounds. In one aspect, the compounds disclosed can be prepared by reacting a compound comprising Formula III:



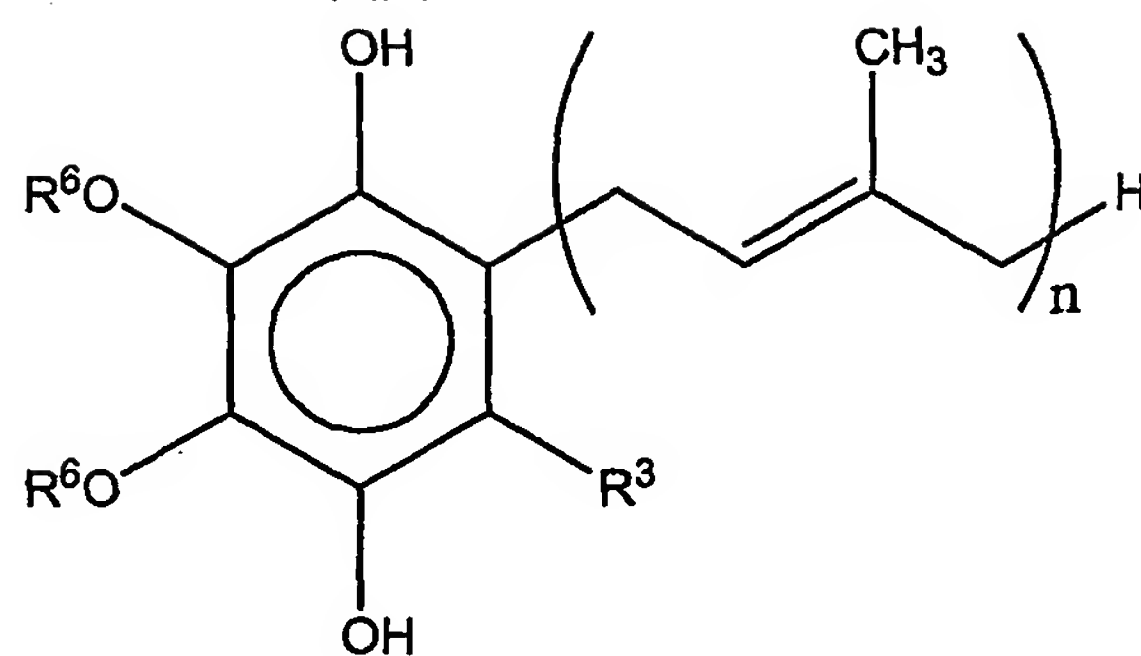
III

wherein R^3 is, independently, H, OH, alkyl, alkoxyl, alkenyl, or alkynyl with one or more unsaturated fatty acids or a derivative thereof.

In one aspect, the compound represented by Formula III can have the substituents OH in the para-, meta-, or ortho-positions (*e.g.*, derivatives of hydroquinone (1,4-benzenediol), resorcinol (1,3-benzenediol), and catechol (1,2-benzenediol), respectively).

In another aspect, of the compounds represented by Formula III, R^3 can be, independently, H, OH, alkyl, alkoxide, alkenyl, or alkynyl, as defined above. For example, at least one R^3 substituent can be a methyl, ethyl, or propyl. In another example, at least one R^3 substituent can be a methoxide, ethoxide, or propoxide. In yet another example, at least one R^3 substituent can be a alkenyl group having the formula – $[CH_2CH=C(CH_3)CH_2-]_n-H$, where n is an integer of from 1 to 12. In still another example, one R^3 substituent in Formula III can be $-[CH_2CH=C(CH_3)CH_2-]_n-H$, where n is an integer of from 1 to 12, one R^3 substituent can be methyl, and two R^3 substituents can be methoxy.

In one specific example, the compound represented by Formula III can comprise Formula VI:

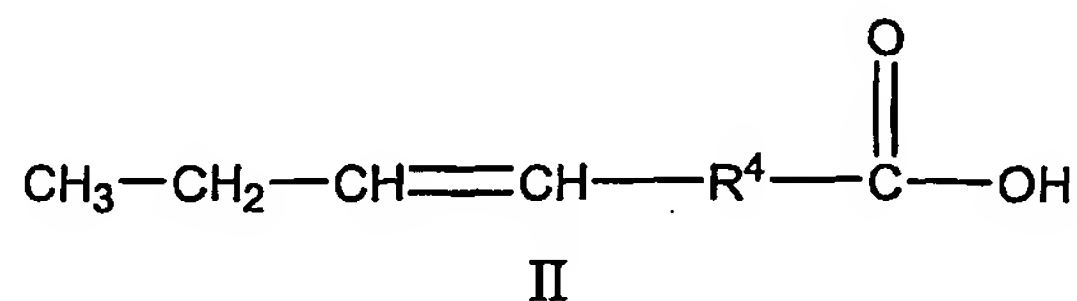


VI

wherein R^3 and each R^6 can be an alkyl group and n can be from 1 to 12, for example, the compound represented by Formula VI can be CoQ₁₋₁₂. In one specific example, R^3 and each R^6 can be methyl and n is 10. This compound is the reduced form of CoQ₁₀, which is referred to herein as CoQ_{10red}. CoQ_{10red} can be produced from CoQ₁₀ by reacting CoQ₁₀ with a reducing agent such as, for example, NaBH₄ or hydrogenation with Zn and AcOH. Various techniques are described herein for producing CoQ_{10red}.

Unsaturated fatty acids

In one aspect, the compound comprising Formula III or Formula VI can be reacted with any unsaturated fatty acid or derivative thereof as disclosed herein. By "derivative thereof" is meant that the protonated or unprotonated unsaturated fatty acid, its salt, its ester (e.g., methyl, ethyl, phenyl, benzyl, etc.), its thioester, its amide, its acid halide (e.g., acid chloride or bromide), or its anhydride (e.g., mixed anhydride) can be used herein. Such derivatives of the fatty acids described above are considered as being disclosed herein. In one example, the unsaturated fatty acid or derivative thereof can be derived from fish oil. In another example, the unsaturated fatty acid or derivative thereof can comprise at least 20 carbon atoms. In yet another example, the unsaturated fatty acid or derivative thereof can comprise at least one pair of methylene interrupted unsaturated bonds. In a further example, the unsaturated fatty acid or derivative thereof can be an omega-3 fatty acid. In still another example, the unsaturated fatty acid or derivative thereof can comprise the Formula II:



wherein R^4 can be a C₃-C₄₀ alkyl or alkenyl group comprising at least one double bond. The substituent R^4 can have from 2 to 6 double bonds.

In some specific examples, the compound comprising Formula III or Formula VI can be reacted with an unsaturated fatty acid or derivative thereof derived from linoleic acid, linolenic acid, gamma-linolenic acid, arachidonic acid, mead acid, stearidonic acid, alpha-eleostearic acid, eleostearic acid, pinolenic acid, docosadienic acid, docosatetraenoic acid, octadecadienoic acid, octadecatrienoic acid, eicosatetraenoic acid, or any combination thereof. In other specific examples, the unsaturated fatty acid or derivative thereof can comprise eicosapentaenoic acid 20:5 ω 3 (EPA), docosahexaenoic acid 22:6 ω 3 (DHA), docosapentaenoic acid 22:5 ω 3 (DPA), or any combination thereof.

In one particular aspect, the compound represented by Formula VI, wherein R³ and each R⁶ is a methyl group and n is 10 is reacted with an unsaturated fatty acid or derivative thereof derived from fish oil.

Concentration

In the methods disclosed herein, the reaction with the compounds represented by Formula III or VI and one or more unsaturated fatty acid or derivatives thereof can take place under various conditions. For example, the reaction can take place neat. In another aspect, the reaction can take place in any solvent. For example, the reaction can take place in an aqueous solvent, such as, but not limited to, water, aqueous hexane, aqueous ethanol, aqueous methanol, aqueous propanol, and the like. The reaction can also take place in non-aqueous solvents, such as, but not limited to, DMSO, DMF, THF, benzene, toluene, hexane, pentane, dichloromethane, acetone, pyridine, and the like. In another example, the reaction can take place in a diphasic system containing an aqueous phase and an organic phase. In these systems, suitable organic phases can contain, for example, butanol, pentane, cyclopentane, hexane, cyclohexane, heptane, benzene, toluene, carbon tetrachloride, chloroform, methylene chloride, dichloroethane, ethyl acetate, ether, MEK, octane, diisopropyl ether, tri and tetrachlorethane, and the like. The amount of solvent used and the concentration of the compound of Formula III or VI and/or unsaturated fatty acid or derivative thereof will depend on the particular compound being prepared, the type of benzendiol derivative of Formula III or VI, the type of unsaturated fatty acid or derivative thereof, the type of solvent, preference, and the like.

Temperature

The compound of Formula III or VI can be reacted with the unsaturated fatty acid or derivative thereof at any temperature sufficient to form a bond between one or more hydroxyl substituents on the aromatic ring and the unsaturated fatty acid or derivative

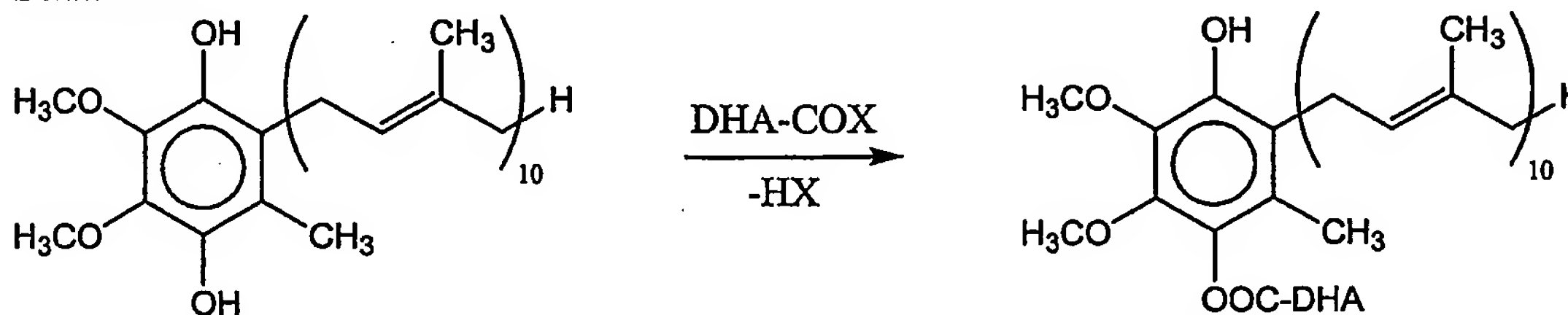
thereof. Typically, the reaction can take place at an elevated temperature. The precise elevated temperature can depend on the particular fatty acid being used, the particular benzenediol derivative of Formula III or VI being used, the solvent, the amount or concentration of the reagents, preference, and the like. Suitable temperatures at which the benzenediol derivative of Formula III or VI can be reacted with the fatty acid include, but are not limited to, from about 20 to about 200°C, from about 50 to about 220°C, from about 70 to about 240°C, from about 90 to about 260°C, or from about 110 to about 280°C. In other examples, the temperature of the reaction can be at about 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100, 105, 110, 115, 120, 125, 130, 135, 140, 145, 150, 155, 160, 165, 170, 175, 180, 185, 190, 195, 200, 205, 210, 215, 220, 225, 230, 235, 240, 245, 250, 255, 260, 265, 270, 275, 280, 285, 290, or 300°C, where any of the stated values can form an upper or lower endpoint when appropriate.

Specific Examples

In one example, Scheme 1 illustrates the direct acylation of the reduced form of CoQ₁₀ (i.e., Formula VI with R³ and each R⁶ being methyl and n = 10, with a DHA derivative, where X is a leaving group. Coenzyme Q₁₀ (CoQ₁₀) is available generically from numerous manufacturers. Branded products include Lynae CoQ₁₀ (Boscogen, Irvine CA), Natures Blend Coenzyme Q₁₀ (National Vitamin Company, Porterville, CA) and Ultra CoQ₁₀ (Twinlab, Hauppauge, NY).

The scheme is written only for acylation of one of the two hydroxy groups but it is contemplated that either or both groups can be acylated and the ratio would depend on the reaction conditions.

Scheme 1:



Also, disclosed herein are compounds prepared by the methods disclosed herein.

Supplements

Also disclosed herein are nutritional supplements. A nutritional supplement is any compound or composition that can be administered to or taken by a subject to provide, supply, or increase a nutrient(s) (e.g., vitamin, mineral, essential trace element, amino acid, peptide, nucleic acid, oligonucleotide, lipid, cholesterol, steroid, carbohydrate, and

the like). In one aspect, disclosed herein are nutritional supplements comprising any of the compounds disclosed herein. For example, a nutritional supplement can comprise any compound comprising Formula I or IV. The fatty acid residues of these formulas can be any fatty acid as disclosed herein (*e.g.*, unsaturated or saturated fatty acid residues).

5 The nutritional supplement can comprise any amount of the compounds disclosed herein, but will typically contain an amount determined to supply a subject with a desired dose of a benzenediol derivative (*e.g.*, CoQ₁₀) and/or fatty acids. The exact amount of compound required in the nutritional supplement will vary from subject to subject, depending on the species, age, weight and general condition of the subject, the severity of
10 the dietary deficiency being treated, the particular mode of administration, and the like. Thus, it is not possible to specify an exact amount for every nutritional supplement. However, an appropriate amount can be determined by one of ordinary skill in the art using only routine experimentation given the teachings herein. In one specific example, a nutritional supplement can comprise from about 0.05 to about 20%, from about 1 to about
15 7.5%, or from about 3 to about 5% by weight of the compound. In another example, the nutritional supplement can comprise from about 0.05, 0.10, 0.15, 0.20, 0.25, 0.30, 0.35, 0.40, 0.45, 0.50, 0.55, 0.60, 0.65, 0.70, 0.75, 0.80, 0.85, 0.90, 0.95, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0, 5.5, 6.0, 6.5, 7.0, 7.5, 8.0, 8.5, 9.0, 9.5, 10, 10.5, 11.0, 11.5, 12.0, 12.5, 13.0, 13.5, 14.0, 14.5, 15.0, 15.5, 16.0, 16.5, 17.0, 17.5, 18.0, 18.5, 19.0, 19.5, or 20.0% by
20 weight of the compound, where any of the stated values can form an upper or lower endpoint when appropriate. In another aspect, when the nutritional supplement, the supplement can be composed of up to 100% of the supplement.

 The nutritional supplement can also comprise other nutrient(s) such as vitamins trace elements, minerals, and the like. Further, the nutritional supplement can comprise
25 other components such as preservatives, antimicrobials, anti-oxidants, chelating agents, thickeners, flavorings, diluents, emulsifiers, dispersing aids, and/or binders.

 The nutritional supplements are generally taken orally and can be in any form suitable for oral administration. For example, a nutritional supplement can typically be in a tablet, gel-cap, capsule, liquid, sachets, or syrup form.

30 Pharmaceutical formulation

 Also, disclosed herein are pharmaceutical formulations. In one aspect, a pharmaceutical formulation can comprise any of the compounds disclosed herein with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. For example, a pharmaceutical formulation can comprise a compound comprising Formula I or IV and a pharmaceutically acceptable

carrier. The disclosed pharmaceutical formulations can be used therapeutically or prophylactically.

By "pharmaceutically acceptable" is meant a material that is not biologically or otherwise undesirable, *i.e.*, the material may be administered to a subject without causing any undesirable biological effects or interacting in a deleterious manner with any of the other components of the pharmaceutical formulation in which it is contained. The carrier would naturally be selected to minimize any degradation of the active ingredient and to minimize any adverse side effects in the subject, as would be well known to one of skill in the art.

Pharmaceutical carriers are known to those skilled in the art. These most typically would be standard carriers for administration of drugs to humans, including solutions such as sterile water, saline, and buffered solutions at physiological pH. Suitable carriers and their formulations are described in *Remington: The Science and Practice of Pharmacy* (19th ed.) Gennaro, ed., Mack Publishing Company, Easton, PA, 1995, which is incorporated by reference herein for its teachings of carriers and pharmaceutical formulations. Typically, an appropriate amount of a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt is used in the formulation to render the formulation isotonic. Examples of the pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier include, but are not limited to, saline, Ringer's solution and dextrose solution. The pH of the solution is preferably from about 5 to about 8, and more preferably from about 7 to about 7.5. Further carriers include sustained release preparations such as semipermeable matrices of solid hydrophobic polymers containing the disclosed compounds, which matrices are in the form of shaped articles, *e.g.*, films, liposomes, microparticles, or microcapsules. It will be apparent to those persons skilled in the art that certain carriers can be more preferable depending upon, for instance, the route of administration and concentration of composition being administered. Other compounds can be administered according to standard procedures used by those skilled in the art.

Pharmaceutical formulations can include additional carriers, as well as thickeners, diluents, buffers, preservatives, surface active agents and the like in addition to the compounds disclosed herein. Pharmaceutical formulations can also include one or more additional active ingredients such as antimicrobial agents, antiinflammatory agents, anesthetics, and the like.

The pharmaceutical formulation can be administered in a number of ways depending on whether local or systemic treatment is desired, and on the area to be treated.

Administration may be topically (including ophthalmically, vaginally, rectally, intranasally), orally, by inhalation, or parenterally, for example by intravenous drip, subcutaneous, intraperitoneal or intramuscular injection. The disclosed compounds can be administered orally, intravenously, intraperitoneally, intramuscularly, subcutaneously, 5 intracavity, or transdermally.

Pharmaceutical formulations for oral administration include, but are not limited to, powders or granules, suspensions or solutions in water or non-aqueous media, capsules, sachets, or tablets. Thickeners, flavorings, diluents, emulsifiers, dispersing aids, anti-oxidants, or binders may be desirable.

10 Pharmaceutical formulations for parenteral administration include sterile aqueous or non-aqueous solutions, suspensions, and emulsions. Examples of non-aqueous solvents are propylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, vegetable oils such as olive oil, fish oils, and injectable organic esters such as ethyl oleate. Aqueous carriers include water, alcoholic/aqueous solutions, emulsions or suspensions, including saline and buffered 15 media. Parenteral vehicles include sodium chloride solution, Ringer's dextrose, dextrose and sodium chloride, lactated Ringer's, or fixed oils. Intravenous vehicles include fluid and nutrient replenishers, electrolyte replenishers (such as those based on Ringer's dextrose), and the like. Preservatives and other additives may also be present such as, for example, antimicrobials, anti-oxidants, chelating agents, and inert gases and the like.

20 Pharmaceutical formulations for topical administration may include ointments, lotions, creams, gels, drops, suppositories, sprays, liquids and powders. Conventional pharmaceutical carriers, aqueous, powder or oily bases, thickeners and the like may be necessary or desirable.

Some of the formulations can potentially be administered as a pharmaceutically 25 acceptable acid- or base- addition salt, formed by reaction with inorganic acids such as hydrochloric acid, hydrobromic acid, perchloric acid, nitric acid, thiocyanic acid, sulfuric acid, and phosphoric acid, and organic acids such as formic acid, acetic acid, propionic acid, glycolic acid, lactic acid, pyruvic acid, oxalic acid, malonic acid, succinic acid, maleic acid, and fumaric acid, or by reaction with an inorganic base such as sodium 30 hydroxide, ammonium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, and organic bases such as mono-, di-, trialkyl and aryl amines and substituted ethanolamines.

Delivery Devices

Any of the compounds described herein can be incorporated into a delivery device. Examples of delivery devices include, but are not limited to, microcapsules, microspheres,

nanospheres or nanoparticles, liposomes, niosomes, nanoerythrocytes, solid-liquid nanoparticles, gels, gel capsules, tablets, lotions, creams, sprays, emulsions. Other examples of delivery devices that are suitable for non-oral administration include pulmospheres. Examples of particular delivery devices useful herein are described below.

5 The disclosed compounds can be incorporated into liposomes. As is known in the art, liposomes are generally derived from phospholipids or other lipid substances. Liposomes are formed by mono- or multi-lamellar hydrated liquid crystals that are dispersed in an aqueous medium. Any non-toxic, physiologically acceptable and metabolizable lipid capable of forming liposomes can be used. The disclosed
10 compositions in liposome form can contain, in addition to a compound disclosed herein, stabilizers, preservatives, excipients, and the like. Examples of suitable lipids are the phospholipids and the phosphatidyl cholines (lecithins), both natural and synthetic. Methods of forming liposomes are known in the art. *See, e.g., Prescott, Ed., Methods in Cell Biology*, Volume XIV, Academic Press, New York, p. 33 et seq., 1976, which is
15 hereby incorporated by reference herein for its teachings of liposomes and their preparation.

 In other examples, the liposomes can be cationic liposomes (*e.g.*, DOTMA, DOPE, DC cholesterol) or anionic liposomes. Liposomes can further comprise proteins to facilitate targeting a particular cell, if desired. Administration of a composition
20 comprising a compound and a cationic liposome can be administered to the blood afferent to a target organ or inhaled into the respiratory tract to target cells of the respiratory tract. Regarding liposomes, *see e.g., Brigham, et al., Am J Resp Cell Mol Biol* 1:95-100, 1989; Felgner, *et al., Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 84:7413-7, 1987; and U.S. Pat. No. 4,897,355, which are incorporated by reference herein for their teachings of liposomes. As one
25 example, delivery can be via a liposome using commercially available liposome preparations such as LIPOFECTIN, LIPOFECTAMINE (GIBCO-BRL, Inc., Gaithersburg, MD), SUPERFECT (Qiagen, Inc. Hilden, Germany) and TRANSFECTAM (Promega Biotec, Inc., Madison, WI), as well as other liposomes developed according to procedures standard in the art. Liposomes where the diffusion of the compound or
30 delivery of the compound from the liposome is designed for a specific rate or dosage can also be used.

 As described herein, niosomes are delivery devices that can be used to deliver the compositions disclosed herein. Niosomes are multilamellar or unilamellar vesicles involving non-ionic surfactants. An aqueous solution of solute is enclosed by a bilayer

resulting from the organization of surfactant macromolecules. Similar to liposomes, noisomes are used in targeted delivery of, for example, anticancer drugs, including methotrexate, doxorubicin, and immunoadjuvants. They are generally understood to be different from transferosomes, vesicles prepared from amphiphilic carbohydrate and amino group containing polymers, *e.g.*, chitosan.

As described herein, nanoerythroosomes are delivery devices that can be used to deliver the compositions disclosed herein. Nanoerythroosomes are nano-vesicles made of red blood cells via dialysis through filters of defined pore size. These vesicles can be loaded with a diverse array of biologically active molecules, including proteins and the compositions disclosed herein. They generally serve as ideal carriers for antineoplastic agents like bleomycin, actinomycin D, but can be used for steroids, other lipids, etc.

Artificial red blood cells, as described herein, are further delivery devices that can be used to deliver the compositions disclosed herein. Artificial red blood cells can be generated by interfacial polymerization and complex emulsion methods. Generally, the “cell” wall is made of polyphthaloyl L-lysine polymer/polystyrene and the core is made of a hemoglobin solution from sheep hemolysate. Hemoglobin loaded microspheres typically have particle sizes of from about 1 to about 10 μ m. Their size, flexibility, and oxygen carrying capacity is similar to red blood cells.

Solid-lipid nanoparticles, as described herein, are other delivery devices that can be used to deliver the compositions disclosed herein. Solid-lipid nanoparticles are nanoparticles, which are dispersed in an aqueous surfactant solution. They are comprised of a solid hydrophobic core having a monolayer of a phospholipid coating and are usually prepared by high-pressure homogenization techniques. Immunomodulating complexes (ISCOMS) are examples of solid-lipid nanoparticles. They are cage-like 40 nm supramolecular assemblies comprising of phospholipid, cholesterol, and hydrophobic antigens and are used mostly as immunoadjuvants. For instance, ISCOMs are used to prolong blood-plasma levels of subcutaneously injected cyclosporine.

Microspheres and micro-capsules, as described herein, are yet other delivery devices that can be used to deliver the compositions disclosed herein. In contrast to liposomal delivery systems, microspheres and micro-capsules typically do not have an aqueous core but a solid polymer matrix or membrane. These delivery devices are obtained by controlled precipitation of polymers, chemical cross-linking of soluble polymers, and interfacial polymerization of two monomers or high-pressure homogenization techniques. The encapsulated compound is gradually released from the

depot by erosion or diffusion from the particles. Successful formulations of short acting peptides, such as LHRH agonists like leuporelin and triptoreline, have been developed. Poly(lactide co-glycolide (PLGA) microspheres are currently used as monthly and three monthly dosage forms in the treatment of advanced prostate cancer, endometriosis, and other hormone responsive conditions. Leuprolide, an LHRH superagonist, was incorporated into a variety of PLGA matrices using a solvent extraction/evaporation method. As noted, all of these delivery devices can be used in the methods disclosed herein.

Pulmospheres are still other examples of delivery devices that can be used herein. Pulmospheres are hollow porous particles with a low density (less than about 0.1 gm/mL). Pulmospheres typically have excellent re-dispersibility and are usually prepared by supercritical fluid condensation technology. Co-spray-drying with certain matrices, such as carbohydrates, human serum albumin, etc., can improve the stability of proteins and peptides (*e.g.*, insulin) and other biomolecules for pulmonary delivery. This type of delivery could be also accomplished with micro-emulsions and lipid emulsions, which are ultra fine, thin, transparent oil-in-water (o/w) emulsions formed spontaneously with no significant input of mechanical energy. In this technique, an emulsion can be prepared at a temperature, which must be higher than the phase inversion temperature of the system. At elevated temperature the emulsion is of water-in-oil (w/o) type and as it cools at the phase inversion temperature, this emulsion is inverted to become o/w. Due to their very small inner phase, they are extremely stable and used for sustained release of steroids and vaccines. Lipid emulsions comprise a neutral lipid core (*i.e.*, triglycerides) stabilized by a monolayer of amphiphilic lipid (*i.e.*, phospholipid) using surfactants like egg lecithin triglycerides and miglyol. They are suitable for passive and active targeting.

There are other oral delivery systems under investigation that are based on osmotic pressure modulation, pH modulation, swelling modulation, altered density and floating systems, mucoadhesiveness etc. These formulations and time-delayed formulations to deliver drugs in accordance with circadian rhythm of disease that are currently in use or investigation can be applied for delivery of the compositions disclosed herein.

In one particular aspect disclosed herein, the disclosed compounds, including nutritional supplement and pharmaceutical formulations thereof, can be incorporated into microcapsules as described herein.

In one aspect disclosed herein, the disclosed compounds can be incorporated into microcapsules. In one aspect, the microcapsule comprises an agglomeration of primary

microcapsules and the chromium compounds described herein, each individual primary microcapsule having a primary shell, wherein the chromium compound is encapsulated by the primary shell, wherein the agglomeration is encapsulated by an outer shell. These microcapsules are referred to herein as "multicore microcapsules."

5 In another aspect, described herein are microcapsules comprising a chromium compound, a primary shell, and a secondary shell, wherein the primary shell encapsulates the chromium compound, and the secondary shell encapsulates the loading substance and primary shell. These microcapsules are referred to herein as "single-core microcapsules.

Optionally, other loading substances can be encapsulated with the chromium
10 compound. The loading substance can be any substance that is not entirely soluble in the aqueous mixture. In one aspect, the loading substance is a solid, a hydrophobic liquid, or a mixture of a solid and a hydrophobic liquid. In another aspect, the loading substance comprises a grease, an oil, a lipid, a drug (*e.g.*, small molecule), a biologically active substance, a nutritional supplement (*e.g.*, vitamins), a flavour compound, or a mixture
15 thereof. Examples of oils include, but are not limited to, animal oils (*e.g.*, fish oil, marine mammal oil, etc.), vegetable oils (*e.g.*, canola or rapeseed), mineral oils, derivatives thereof or mixtures thereof. The loading substance can be a purified or partially purified oily substance such as a fatty acid, a triglyceride or ester thereof, or a mixture thereof. In another aspect, the loading substance can be a carotenoid (*e.g.*, lycopene), a satiety agent,
20 a flavor compound, a drug (*e.g.*, a water insoluble drug), a particulate, an agricultural chemical (*e.g.*, herbicides, insecticides, fertilizers), or an aquaculture ingredient (*e.g.*, feed, pigment).

In one aspect, the loading substance can be an omega-3 fatty acid. Examples of omega-3 fatty acids include, but are not limited to, α -linolenic acid (18:3 ω 3),
25 octadecatetraenoic acid (18:4 ω 3), eicosapentaenoic acid (20:5 ω 3) (EPA), docosahexaenoic acid (22:6 ω 3) (DHA), docosapentaenoic acid (22:5 ω 3) (DPA), eicosatetraenoic acid (20:4 ω 3), uncosapentaenoic acid (21:5 ω 3), docosapentaenoic acid (22:5 ω 3) and derivatives thereof and mixtures thereof. Many types of derivatives of omega-3 fatty acids are well known in the art. Examples of suitable derivatives include,
30 but are not limited to, esters, such as phytosterol esters, branched or unbranched C₁-C₃₀ alkyl esters, branched or unbranched C₂-C₃₀ alkenyl esters, or branched or unbranched C₃-C₃₀ cycloalkyl esters such as phytosterol esters and C₁-C₆ alkyl esters. Sources of oils can be derived from aquatic organisms (*e.g.*, anchovies, capelin, Atlantic cod, Atlantic herring,

Atlantic mackerel, Atlantic menhaden, salmonids, sardines, shark, tuna, etc) and plants (e.g., flax, vegetables, etc) and microorganisms (e.g., fungi and algae).

In one aspect, the loading substance can contain an antioxidant. Examples of antioxidants include, but are not limited to, vitamin E, CoQ₁₀, tocopherols, lipid soluble derivatives of more polar antioxidants such as ascorbyl fatty acid esters (e.g., ascorbyl palmitate), plant extracts (e.g., rosemary, sage and oregano oils), algal extracts, and synthetic antioxidants (e.g., BHT, TBHQ, ethoxyquin, alkyl gallates, hydroquinones, tocotrienols).

A number of different polymers can be used to produce the shell layers of the single and multicore microcapsules. Examples of such polymers include, but are not limited to, a protein, a polyphosphate, a polysaccharide, or a mixture thereof. In another aspect, the shell material used to prepare the single- and multicore microcapsules further comprises In another aspect, the shell material used to prepare the single- and multicore microcapsules further comprises gelatin type A, gelatin type B, polyphosphate, gum arabic, alginate, chitosan, carrageenan, pectin, starch, modified starch, alfa-lactalbumin, beta-lactoglobulin, ovalbumin, polysorbition, maltodextrins, cyclodextrins, cellulose, methyl cellulose, ethyl cellulose, hydropropylmethylcellulose, carboxymethylcellulose, milk protein, whey protein, soy protein, canola protein, albumin, chitin, polylactides, polylactide-co-glycolides, derivatized chitin, chitosan, poly-lysine, various inorganic-organic composites, or any mixture thereof. It is also contemplated that derivatives of these polymers can be used as well. In another aspect, the polymer can be kosher gelatin, non-kosher gelatin, Halal gelatin, or non-Halal gelatin.

In one aspect, one or more of the shell layers in the single and multicore microcapsules comprises gelatin having a Bloom number less than 50. This gelatin is referred to herein as "low Bloom gelatin." The Bloom number describes the gel strength formed at 10 °C with a 6.67% solution gelled for 18 hours. In one aspect, the low Bloom gelatin has a Bloom number less than 40, less than 30, less than 20, or less than 10. In another aspect, the gelatin has a Bloom number of 45, 40, 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, or 0, where any two values can be used to produce a range. In another aspect, the low Bloom gelatin is in both the primary shell and the outer shell of the multicore microcapsule. In one aspect, the low Bloom gelatin is gelatin type A. In another aspect, the low Bloom gelatin is gelatin type A produced by Kenney & Ross Ltd., R.R. #3 Shelburne, NS Canada. In another aspect, gelatin having a Bloom number of zero is in both the primary shell and the outer shell of the multicore microcapsule.

In one aspect, the material used to make the shells of the single- or multicore microcapsules is a two-component system made from a mixture of two different types of polymers. In one aspect, the material is a complex coacervate between the polymer components. Complex coacervation is caused by the interaction between two oppositely charged polymers. In one aspect, the shell material used to produce the single and multicore microcapsules is composed of (1) low Bloom gelatin and (2) gelatin type B, polyphosphate, gum arabic, alginate, chitosan, carrageenan, pectin, carboxymethylcellulose, whey protein, soy protein, canola protein, albumin, or a mixture thereof. The molar ratio of the different polymers can vary. For example, the molar ratio of low Bloom gelatin to the other polymer component is from 1:5 to 15:1. For example, when low Bloom gelatin and polyphosphate are used, the molar ratio of low Bloom gelatin to polyphosphate is about 8:1 to about 12:1; when low Bloom gelatin and gelatin type B are used, the molar ratio is 2:1 to 1:2; and when low Bloom gelatin and alginate are used, the molar ratio is 3:1 to 8:1.

Processing aids can be included in the shell material (*e.g.*, primary or outer shells). Processing aids can be used for a variety of reasons. For example, they may be used to promote agglomeration of the primary microcapsules, stabilize the emulsion system, improve the properties of the outer shells, control microcapsule size and/or to act as an antioxidant. In one aspect, the processing aid can be an emulsifier, a fatty acid, a lipid, a wax, a microbial cell (*e.g.*, yeast cell lines), a clay, or an inorganic compound (*e.g.*, calcium carbonate). Not wishing to be bound by theory, these processing aids can improve the barrier properties of the microcapsules. In one aspect, one or more antioxidants can be added to the shell material. Antioxidant properties are useful both during the process (*e.g.* during coacervation and/or spray drying) and in the microcapsules after they are formed (*i.e.* to extend shelf-life, etc). Preferably a small number of processing aids that perform a large number of functions can be used. In one aspect, the antioxidant can be a phenolic compound, a plant extract, or a sulphur-containing amino acid. In one aspect, ascorbic acid (or a salt thereof such as sodium or potassium ascorbate) can be used to promote agglomeration of the primary microcapsules, to control microcapsule size and to act as an antioxidant. The antioxidant can be used in an amount of about 100 ppm to about 12,000 ppm, or from about 1,000 ppm to about 5,000 ppm. Other processing aids such as, for example, metal chelators, can be used as well. For example, ethylene diamine tetraacetic acid can be used to bind metal ions, which can reduce the catalytic oxidation of the loading substance.

In one aspect, the primary microcapsules (primary shells) have an average diameter of about 40 nm to about 10 μm , 0.1 μm to about 10 μm , 1 μm to about 10 μm , 1 μm to about 8 μm , 1 μm to about 6 μm , 1 μm to about 4 μm , or 1 μm to about 2 μm , or 1 μm . In another aspect, the multicore microcapsules can have an average diameter of from
5 about 1 μm to about 2000 μm , 20 μm to about 1000 μm , from about 20 μm to about 100 μm , or from about 30 μm to about 80 μm . In another aspect, the single-core microcapsules have an outer diameter of from 1 μm to 2,000 μm .

The microcapsules described herein generally have a combination of high payload and structural strength. For example, payloads of loading substance can be from 20% to
10 90%, 50% to 70% by weight, or 60% by weight of the single or multicore microcapsules.

In one aspect, the methods disclosed in U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0193102, which is incorporated by reference in its entirety, can be used to encapsulate the chromium compounds described herein. It is also contemplated that one or more additional shell layers can be placed on the outer shell of the single or multicore
15 microcapsules. In one aspect, the techniques described in International Publication No. WO 2004/041251 A1, which is incorporated by reference in its entirety, can be used to add additional shell layers to the single and multicore microcapsules.

Targeted delivery

The disclosed liposomes and microcapsules can be targeted to a particular cell
20 type, such as islets cells, via antibodies, receptors, or receptor ligands. The following references are examples of the use of this technology to target specific tissue (Senter, *et al.*, *Bioconjugate Chem* 2:447-51, 1991; Bagshawe, *Br J Cancer* 60:275-81, 1989; Bagshawe, *et al.*, *Br J Cancer* 58:700-3, 1988; Senter, *et al.*, *Bioconjugate Chem* 4:3-9, 1993; Battelli, *et al.*, *Cancer Immunol Immunother* 35:421-5, 1992; Pietersz and
25 McKenzie, *Immunolog Reviews* 129:57-80, 1992; and Roffler, *et al.*, *Biochem Pharmacol* 42:2062-5, 1991). These techniques can be used for a variety of other specific cell types.

Foodstuffs

Also disclosed herein are foodstuffs comprising any of the microcapsules and emulsions disclosed herein. By "foodstuff" is meant any article that can be consumed
30 (e.g., eaten, drank, or ingested) by a subject. In one aspect, the microcapsules can be used as nutritional supplements to a foodstuff. For example, the microcapsules and emulsions can be loaded with vitamins, omega-3 fatty acids, and other compounds that provide health benefits. In one aspect, the foodstuff is a baked good, a pasta, a meat product, a

frozen dairy product, a milk product, a cheese product, an egg product, a condiment, a soup mix, a snack food, a nut product, a plant protein product, a hard candy, a soft candy, a poultry product, a processed fruit juice, a granulated sugar (*e.g.*, white or brown), a sauce, a gravy, a syrup, a nutritional bar, a beverage, a dry beverage powder, a jam or jelly, a fish product, or pet companion food. In another aspect, the foodstuff is bread, tortillas, cereal, sausage, chicken, ice cream, yogurt, milk, salad dressing, rice bran, fruit juice, a dry beverage powder, rolls, cookies, crackers, fruit pies, or cakes.

Methods of use:

The compounds disclosed herein also have a wide variety of uses. In the disclosed compounds, the one or more fatty acids are bonded to a benzenediol derivative and are therefore an integral part of the complex. Thus, while not wishing to be bound by theory, it is believed that the fatty acids (*e.g.*, DHA, DPA, and/or EPA) play at least two roles, *i.e.*, they make the benzenediol biologically available and they also contribute with their inherent biological activity. Thus, the disclosed compounds (including the nutritional supplements, pharmaceutical formulations, microcapsules, liposomes, and foodstuffs) can deliver fatty acids (*e.g.*, omega-3 fatty acids), lowering triglycerides and influencing prevention or treatment of neurodegenerative diseases (Calon, *et al.*, *Neuron* 43:633-45, 2004), and benzenediol derivatives like CoQ₁₀, a cofactor with a beneficial effect on cardiovascular and central nervous system health.

In one particular aspect, disclosed herein are methods of lowering total cholesterol levels, triglyceride levels, and increasing HDL levels, or a combination thereof in a subject by administering an effective amount of any of the compounds described herein (*e.g.*, Formula I or IV) to the subject. In still another aspect, disclosed herein are methods of improving insulin sensitivity in a subject by administering an effective amount of any of the compounds described herein to the subject. In a further aspect, disclosed herein are methods of reducing hyperglycemia in a subject by administering an effective amount of any of the compounds described herein to the subject. In yet another aspect, disclosed herein are methods of reducing hypercholesterolemia in a subject by administering an effective amount of any of the compounds described herein to the subject.

Also disclosed herein, in one aspect, are methods of preventing a mitochondrial condition or disease in a subject by administering an effective amount of any of the compounds described herein to the subject. An example of a mitochondrial condition includes, but is not limited to, mitochondriopathy. Mitochondriopathy can be characterized by a CoQ₁₀ deficiency, ubiquinone-cytochrome c oxidoreductase deficiency,

cytochrome c oxidase deficiency, chronic progressive external ophthalmoplegia syndrome, age-related macular degeneration, neuropathy, ataxia, or retinis Pigmentosa.

In another aspect, disclosed herein are methods of increasing circulation in a subject by administering an effective amount of any compound comprising any of the compounds described herein to the subject. In still another aspect, disclosed herein are methods of increasing the immune system in a subject by administering an effective amount of any compound comprising any of the compounds described herein to the subject. Principles and examples of use of immunostimulants and immunomodulators are described for instance in: "Immunostimulants now and tomorrow" (Azuma I, Jolles G, eds.), Japan Scientific Societies Press, Tokyo, 1987; Hadden JW (1992) "Classification of immunotherapeutic agents. In: Developments of Biological Standardization," Vol. 77, (eds Brown F, Revillard JP): 5-15; Karger, Basel; Galeotti M (1998) "Some aspects of the application of immunostimulants and a critical review of methods for their evaluation" *J Appl Ichtuol* 189-199; Halperin SA, Smith BS, Nolan C, Shay J, Kralovec J (2003) "Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial of the safety and immunostimulatory effect of a *Chlorella*-derived food supplement in healthy adults undergoing influenza immunization" *Can Med Assoc J* 169: 111-117), which are incorporated by reference in their entireties. In yet another aspect, disclosed herein are methods of reducing the side effects of chemotherapy in a subject by administering an effective amount of any compound comprising any of the compounds described herein to the subject. In still another aspect, disclosed herein are methods of treating or preventing degenerative heart disease in a subject by administering an effective amount of any compound comprising any of the compounds described herein to the subject.

Further, disclosed herein are methods of treating other conditions or diseases in a subject by administering an effective amount of any compound comprising Formula I to the subject. Such other conditions or diseases include, but are not limited to, cystic fibrosis, asthma, periodontal (gum) disease, Alzheimer's disease, poor athletic performance, breast cancer, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), HIV, male infertility, insulin resistance syndrome (Syndrome X), lung cancer, and prostate cancer.

The disclosed compounds herein can be used neat or in combination with some other component. For example, the compounds can be used in the disclosed methods in the form of any of the nutritional supplements disclosed herein. In another example, the compounds can be used in the disclosed methods in the form of any of the pharmaceutical formulations disclosed herein. In still another example, the compounds can be

encapsulated in any of the microcapsules or liposomes disclosed herein, or incorporated into any foodstuff disclosed herein and used in the disclosed methods.

It is contemplated that the methods disclosed herein can be accomplished by administering various forms of the compounds disclosed herein. For example, one can administer any of the pharmaceutical formulations with any of the foodstuffs disclosed herein. In another example, one can administer any of the microcapsules with any of the nutritional supplements disclosed herein. In yet another example, one can administer any of the pharmaceutical formulations with any of the microcapsules and nutritional supplement disclosed herein, and the like.

10 Dosage

When used in the above described methods or other treatments, or in the nutritional supplements, pharmaceutical formulations, microcapsules, liposomes, or foodstuffs disclosed herein, an "effective amount" of one of the disclosed compounds can be employed in pure form or, where such forms exist, in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form and with or without a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, carrier, or other additive.

The specific effective dose level for any particular subject will depend upon a variety of factors including the condition or disease being treated and the severity of the condition or disease; activity of the specific compound employed; the specific composition employed; the age, body weight, general health, sex and diet of the subject; the time of administration; the route of administration; the rate of excretion of the specific compound employed; the duration of the treatment; drugs used in combination or coincidental with the specific compound employed and like factors well known in the medical arts. For example, it is well within the skill of the art to start doses of the compound at levels lower than those required to achieve the desired therapeutic effect and to gradually increase the dosage until the desired effect is achieved. If desired, the effective daily dose may be divided into multiple doses for purposes of administration. Consequently, single dose compositions may contain such amounts or submultiples thereof to make up the daily dose.

30 The dosage can be adjusted by the individual physician or the subject in the event of any counterindications. Dosage can vary, and can be administered in one or more dose administrations daily, for one or several days. Guidance can be found in the literature for appropriate dosages for given classes of pharmaceutical products. A typical daily dosage of the compounds disclosed herein used alone might range from about 10 mg to up to 500

mg (benzenediol content only) or more per day, depending on the factors mentioned above.

Administration and delivery

In one aspect, disclosed herein are uses of a microcapsule to deliver a loading
5 substance to a subject, wherein the microcapsule contains any of the compounds disclosed
herein. Also disclosed are methods for delivering a compound comprising Formula I (*e.g.*,
Formula IV) to a subject by administering to the subject any of the microcapsules
disclosed herein. Further, disclosed are methods for delivering a compound disclosed
herein to a subject by administering to the subject any of the nutritional supplements,
10 pharmaceutical formulations, liposomes, and/or foodstuffs disclosed herein.

The compounds disclosed herein (including nutritional supplements,
microcapsules, liposomes, and pharmaceutical formulations) can be administered orally,
parenterally (*e.g.*, intravenously), by intramuscular injection, by intraperitoneal injection,
transdermally, extracorporeally, topically or the like, including topical intranasal
15 administration or administration by inhalant. As used herein, "topical intranasal
administration" means delivery of the compositions into the nose and nasal passages
through one or both of the nares and can comprise delivery by a spraying mechanism or
droplet mechanism, or through aerosolization of the nucleic acid or vector.
Administration of the compositions by inhalant can be through the nose or mouth via
20 delivery by a spraying or droplet mechanism. Delivery can also be directly to any area of
the respiratory system (*e.g.*, lungs) via intubation.

EXAMPLES

The following examples are set forth below to illustrate the methods and results
according to the disclosed subject matter. These examples are not intended to be inclusive
25 of all aspects of the subject matter disclosed herein, but rather to illustrate representative
methods and results. These examples are not intended to exclude equivalents and
variations of the present invention which are apparent to one skilled in the art.

Efforts have been made to ensure accuracy with respect to numbers (*e.g.*, amounts,
temperature, etc.) but some errors and deviations should be accounted for. Unless
30 indicated otherwise, parts are parts by weight, temperature is in °C or is at ambient
temperature, and pressure is at or near atmospheric. There are numerous variations and
combinations of reaction conditions, *e.g.*, component concentrations, desired solvents,
solvent mixtures, temperatures, pressures and other reaction ranges and conditions that can
be used to optimize the product purity and yield obtained from the described process.

Only reasonable and routine experimentation will be required to optimize such process conditions.

Example 1: Physical Blending of CoQ₁₀ and Fish Oil or Fish Oil Concentrates

CoQ₁₀ was solubilized in 0355 EE (fish oil concentrate in ethylester form containing 3% EPA and 55% DHA), 4020EE (fish oil concentrate in ethylester form containing 40% EPA and 20% DHA) and 1812TG (purified fish oil containing 18% EPA and 12% of DHA) and the final solubility was examined under different conditions and time of storage. All of these starting oils were manufactured by Ocean Nutrition Canada, Mulgrave, NS). The basic results are listed in the Table 4.

Table 4. Solubility of CoQ _{10ox} in selected fish oil products			
	Solubility of CoQ ₁₀ in 0355EE	Solubility of CoQ ₁₀ in 4020EE	Solubility of CoQ ₁₀ in 1812TG
	No Heating Prior Storage	Heating Prior Storage	Heating Prior Storage
Solubility/ Storage	Confirmed solubility. (%,w/w)	Confirmed solubility. (%,w/w)	Confirmed solubility. (%,w/w)
Solubility at RT	6.6	ND	ND
Storage at 4°C for 24 h	2.5	ND	ND
Solubility at 50°C	27%	9	11
Storage at 4°C	3.2%	5.7	<2.9

Solubilization of CoQ_{10ox} in the tested fish oil and concentrates is clearly very limited.

Example 2: Direct Esterification of CoQ₁₀

CoQ₁₀ exists primarily in its oxidized ubiquinone form (CoQ_{10ox}). However, it was tested whether the concentration of the reduced form in a normal CoQ_{10ox} sample would be high enough to initiate the coupling and progressively form more and more conjugate due to the equilibrium shift, (e.g., that the reaction would be under thermodynamic control). Although it is generally accepted that for acylation of phenols, basic catalysis is more effective, these reactions were performed using both acidic and basic catalysis, initially with NaHSO₄ or K₂CO₃, respectively. The molar ratio of free fatty acid over CoQ₁₀ initially used was 2:1 and 5:1, respectively, and the reactions were performed at 120°C. An H₃BO₃/H₂SO₄ combination and carbodiimides were also used, including PS-carbodiimide, a resin bound coupling agent, (both at room temperature and under reflux).

To improve the yields of the acylation, CoQ_{10ox} was converted to the corresponding reduced form (CoQ_{10red}) by NaBH₄, and later even more conveniently by

hydrogen generated by Zn from AcOH. High yields were achieved by reacting CoQ₁₀ with free fatty acid that was first converted to the corresponding chloride with SOCl₂. It was found that the use of nitrogen base such as Et₃N was helpful to achieve good conversions. The highest yields were accomplished using P₂O₅ (phosphoric acid anhydride). While not wishing to be bound by theory, it was assumed that a mixed anhydride of the formula (DHA-COO)₂PO is the reaction intermediate. In addition, excess catalyst can drive the equilibrium by capturing the produced water.

Example 3: Preparation of CoQ_{10red}

Ten grams (11.57 mmol) of CoQ_{10ox} was stirred with 20 g zinc powder in 200 mL glacial acetic acid under reflux for 1 hour (h) at 65-70°C. The residual acetic acid was then evaporated and the mixture extracted 3 times with hexane, centrifuged, filtered and concentrated. The product was obtained in a quantitative yield, in a form of light yellow syrup that quickly crystallized yielding white crystals. The product was stored under nitrogen.

Preparation of Omega-3-CoQ₁₀ Conjugates

Example 4

A mixture of 3.93 g (11.57 mmol) 4020FFA (Free Fatty Acid, prepared by hydrolysis of 4020EE, a product of Ocean Nutrition Canada, Mulgrave, NS) with 10 mL thionyl chloride was refluxed until no more HCl was produced (approximately 2 h) and then excess thionyl chloride was evaporated. The product (FFA-Cl) was in a form of dark brown liquid and obtained in a quantitative yield.

A mixture of CoQ_{10red} (10 g, 11.57 mmol) and triethylamine (1.627 mL, 1.171 g, 11.57 mmol) in 10 mL CH₂Cl₂ was added to the prepared FFA-Cl. The reaction was stirred for 5 h at room temperature and pressure with a CaCl₂ trap, then the solvent was evaporated, and the residue was mixed with 60 mL acetone to precipitate the triethylammonium chloride. The precipitate was filtered off, acetone evaporated, and the product reconstituted in hexane. The reaction was monitored by TLC (hexane/diethyl ether (6:4) + 1% AcOH, and sprayed with 15% H₂SO₄ in MeOH). The product was isolated from the final reaction mixture by column chromatography on silica gel using 1% diethylether in hexane as a solvent. It was obtained in a form of a yellow liquid and stored in the refrigerator under nitrogen.

Example 5

A mixture of 5.62 g (18 mmol) of 4020FFA and 3.71 g dicyclohexyldicarbodimide (DCC) (18 mmol) in 18 mL of hexane was stirred overnight. Then a mixture of CoQ_{10red}

(0.865 g, 1 mmol) and triethylamine (0.276 ml, 0.2024 g, 2 mmol) was added to a portion of the activated free fatty acid (FFA) (0.624 g, 2 mmol). The reaction was stirred overnight at room temperature, monitored and the product isolated as described in Example 4.

5 **Example 6**

A solution of reduced CoQ_{10red} (2.0 g, 2.3 mmol) in 4020FFA (1.7 g 5 mmol) was prepared at 50°C and P₂O₅ (1.42 g, 10 mmol) was added. The reaction was then heated at 50-60°C for 28 h under vacuum (< 7 mbar). The reaction mixture was removed from the vessel using a mixture of hexane and chloroform; the extract was evaporated and then
10 chromatographed as described in Example 4.

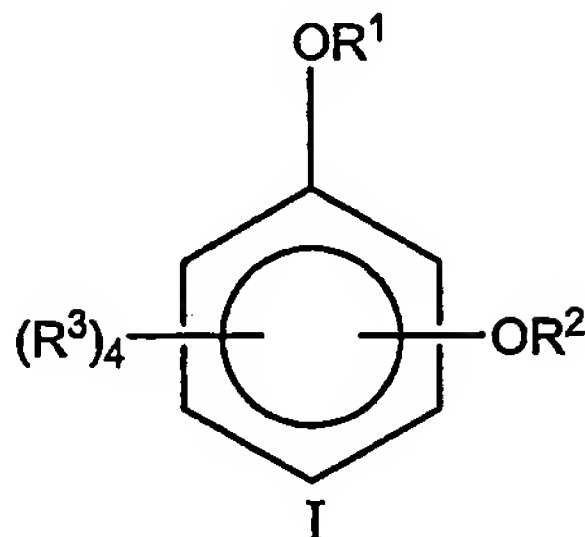
Example 7: Analysis

Mass spectral analysis confirmed synthesis of bifunctional omega-3-CoQ₁₀ conjugate. A sample of the reaction mixture was injected directly into Micromass QTOF mass spectrometer chromatography using a Waters 2695 HPLC system. A Waters 996
15 photo diode array was installed upstream from the mass spectrometer to monitor the elution profile using ultraviolet absorbance. The eluent (40% heptane, 20% chloroform, 40% methanol with 0.1% AcONH₄) flow rate was set to 0.2 ml/min and the sample injection volume was 5 µL. The mass spec was operated in ESI+ mode to monitor for cationic ammonium adducts of the sample. There was significant evidence for CoQ_{10red}
20 conjugated with both EPA and DHA fatty acids as evidenced from Figs. 1-3.

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A compound, comprising Formula I:



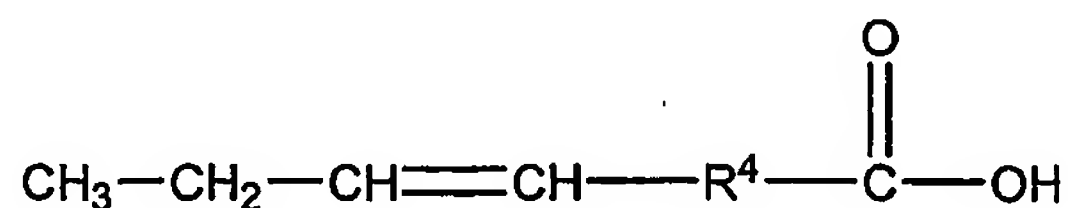
wherein

R¹ is an unsaturated fatty acid residue;

R² is H or a fatty acid residue; and

R³ is, independently, H, OH, alkyl, alkoxide, alkenyl, or alkynyl.

2. The compound of claim 1, wherein R¹ is an unsaturated fatty acid residue derived from fish oil.
3. The compound of claim 1, wherein R¹ is an unsaturated fatty acid residue comprising at least 20 carbon atoms.
4. The compound of claim 1, wherein R¹ is an unsaturated fatty acid residue comprising at least one pair of methylene interrupted unsaturated bonds.
5. The compound of claim 1, wherein R¹ is an unsaturated fatty acid residue derived from an omega-3 fatty acid.
6. The compound of claim 1, wherein R¹ is an unsaturated fatty acid residue derived from a compound comprising the formula:

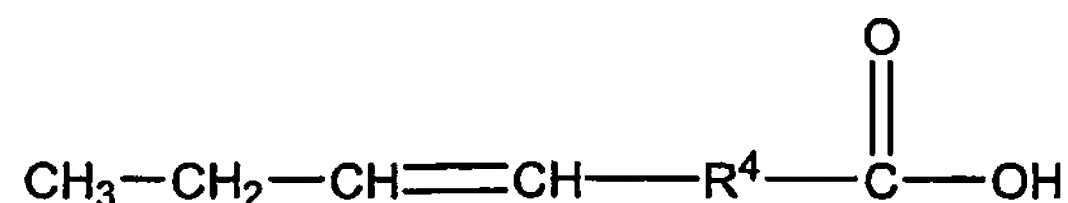


wherein R⁴ is a C₃-C₄₀ alkyl or alkenyl group.

7. The compound of claim 6, wherein R⁴ has from 2 to 6 double bonds.
8. The compound of claim 1, wherein R¹ comprises an unsaturated fatty acid residue derived from linoleic acid, linolenic acid, gamma-linolenic acid, arachidonic acid,

mead acid, stearidonic acid, alpha-eleostearic acid, eleostearic acid, pinolenic acid, docosadienic acid, docosatetraenoic acid, octadecadienoic acid, octadecatrienoic acid, eicosatetraenoic acid, or any combination thereof.

9. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^1 is an unsaturated fatty acid residue derived from eicosapentaenoic acid 20:5 ω 3 (EPA).
10. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^1 is an unsaturated fatty acid residue derived from docosahexaenoic acid 22:6 ω 3 (DHA).
11. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^1 is an unsaturated fatty acid residue derived from docosapentaenoic acid 22:5 ω 3 (DPA).
12. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^1 and R^2 are unsaturated fatty acid residues derived from fish oil.
13. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^1 and R^2 are unsaturated fatty acid residues comprising at least 20 carbon atoms.
14. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^1 and R^2 are unsaturated fatty acid residues comprising at least one pair of methylene interrupted unsaturated bonds.
15. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^1 and R^2 are unsaturated fatty acid residues derived from an omega-3 fatty acid.
16. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^1 and R^2 are unsaturated fatty acid residues derived from a compound comprising the formula:

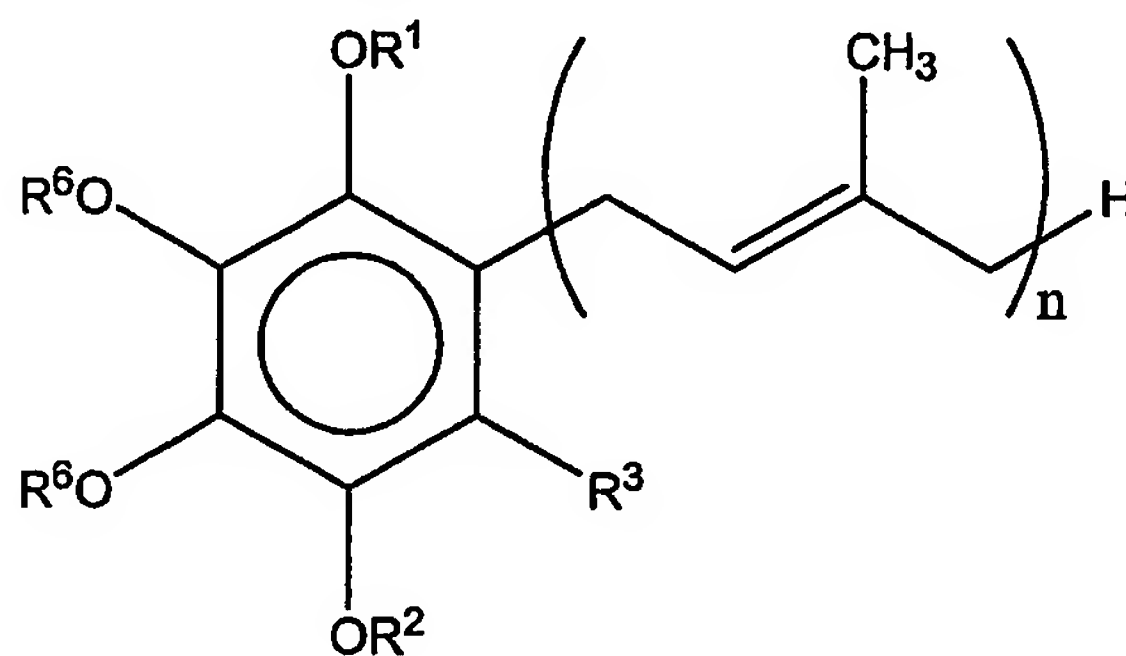


wherein R^4 is a C_3 - C_{40} alkyl or alkenyl group.

17. The compound of claim 16, wherein R^4 has from 2 to 6 double bonds.
18. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^1 and R^2 are unsaturated fatty acid residues derived from linoleic acid, linolenic acid, gamma-linolenic acid, arachidonic acid, mead acid, stearidonic acid, alpha-eleostearic acid, eleostearic acid, pinolenic acid,

docosadienic acid, docosatetraenoic acid, octadecadienoic acid, octadecatrienoic acid, eicosatetraenoic acid, or any combination thereof.

19. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^1 and R^2 are unsaturated fatty acid residues derived from eicosapentaenoic acid 20:5 ω 3 (EPA), docosahexaenoic acid 22:6 ω 3 (DHA), docosapentaenoic acid 22:5 ω 3 (DPA), or a combination thereof.
20. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound has the Formula IV

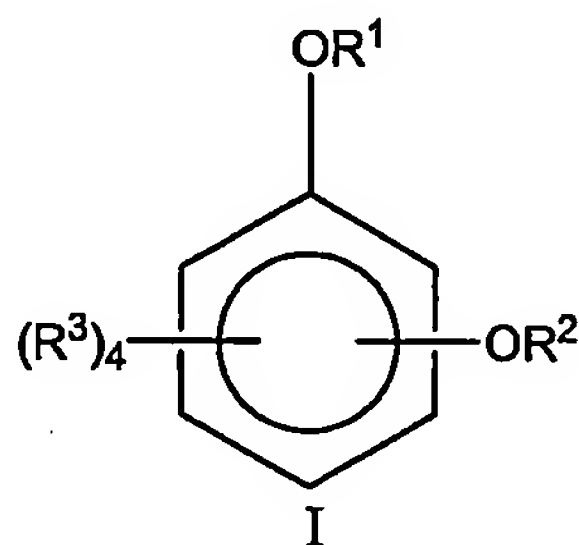


IV

wherein R^3 and each R^6 is an alkyl group and n is from 1 to 12.

21. The compound of claim 20, wherein each R^3 is a methyl group and n is 10.
22. The compound of claim 20, wherein R^1 is an unsaturated fatty acid residue derived from fish oil.
23. The compound of claim 20, wherein R^1 is an unsaturated fatty acid residue comprising at least 20 carbon atoms.
24. The compound of claim 20, wherein R^1 is an unsaturated fatty acid residue comprising at least one pair of methylene interrupted unsaturated bonds.
25. The compound of claim 20, wherein R^1 is an unsaturated fatty acid residue derived from an omega-3 fatty acid.
26. The compound of claim 20, wherein R^1 is an unsaturated fatty acid residue derived from eicosapentaenoic acid 20:5 ω 3 (EPA), docosahexaenoic acid 22:6 ω 3 (DHA), docosapentaenoic acid 22:5 ω 3 (DPA), or a combination thereof.

27. The compound of claim 20, wherein R^1 and R^2 are unsaturated fatty acid residues derived from fish oil.
28. The compound of claim 20, wherein R^1 and R^2 are unsaturated fatty acid residues comprising at least 20 carbon atoms.
29. The compound of claim 20, wherein R^1 and R^2 are unsaturated fatty acid residues comprising at least one pair of methylene interrupted unsaturated bonds.
30. The compound of claim 20, wherein R^1 and R^2 are unsaturated fatty acid residues derived from an omega-3 fatty acid.
31. The compound of claim 20, wherein each R^3 is a methyl group, n is 10, and R^1 and R^2 are unsaturated fatty acid residues derived from fish oil.
32. A compound, comprising Formula I:



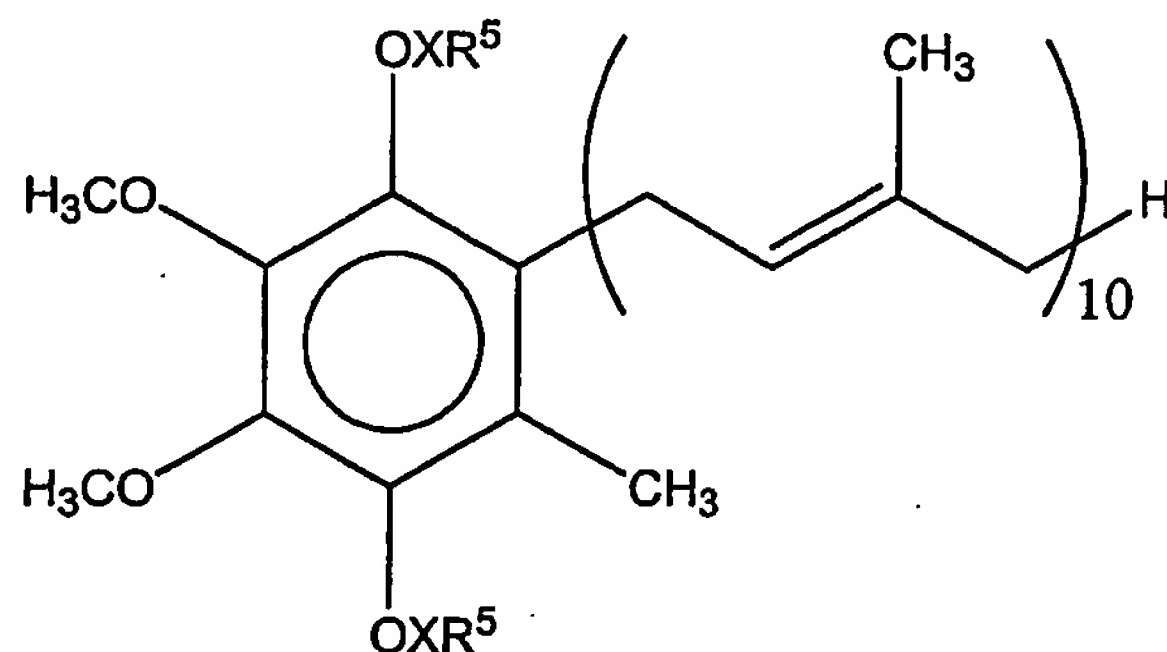
wherein

R^1 is a fatty acid residue;

R^2 is, independently, a H or a fatty acid residue; and

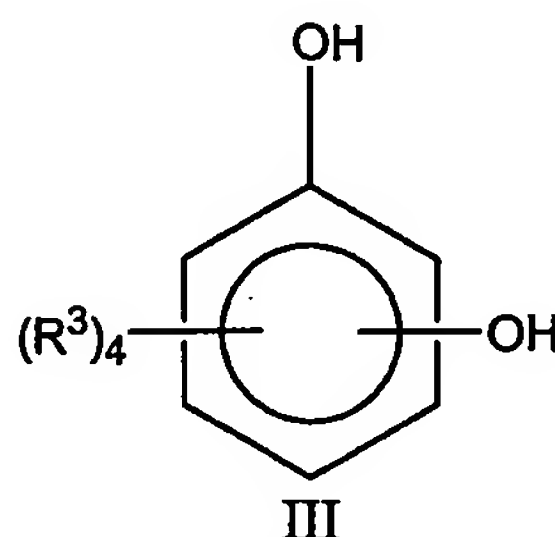
R^3 is, independently, H, OH, alkyl, alkoxyl, alkenyl, or alkynyl, and

wherein the compound is not



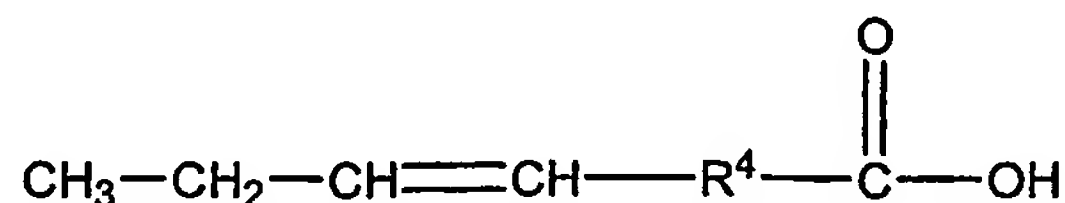
wherein R^5 is a linear or branched alkyl group with 1 to 20 carbon atoms, or an aryl group, optionally substituted with alkyl from 1 to 6 carbon atoms and X is absent or a CO group.

33. A method for preparing a compound, comprising reacting a compound comprising Formula III:



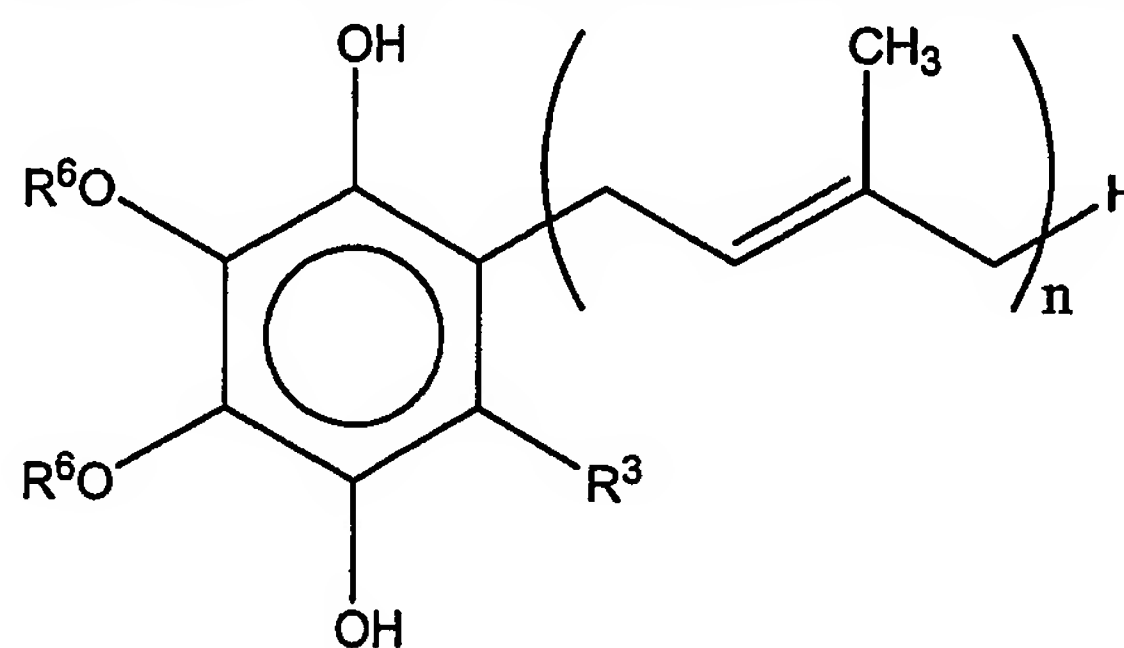
wherein R^3 is, independently, H, OH, alkyl, alkoxy, alkenyl, or alkynyl with one or more unsaturated fatty acids or a derivative thereof.

34. The method of claim 33, wherein in the unsaturated fatty acid derivative is a salt, ester, thioester, amide, acid halide, or mixed anhydride.
35. The method of claim 33, wherein the unsaturated fatty acid or derivative thereof is derived from fish oil.
36. The method of claim 33, wherein unsaturated fatty acid or derivative thereof comprises at least 20 carbon atoms.
37. The method of claim 33, wherein the unsaturated fatty acid or derivative thereof comprises at least one pair of methylene interrupted unsaturated bonds.
38. The method of claim 33, wherein the unsaturated fatty acid or derivative thereof is derived from an omega-3 fatty acid.
39. The method of claim 33, wherein the unsaturated fatty acid or derivative thereof comprises the formula:



wherein R^4 is a C_3 - C_{40} alkyl or alkenyl group.

40. The method of claim 39, wherein R^4 has from 2 to 6 double bonds.
41. The method of claim 33, wherein the unsaturated fatty acid or derivative thereof comprises linoleic acid, linolenic acid, gamma-linolenic acid, arachidonic acid, mead acid, stearidonic acid, alpha-eleostearic acid, eleostearic acid, pinolenic acid, docosadienic acid, docosatetraenoic acid, octadecadienoic acid, octadecatrienoic acid, eicosatetraenoic acid, or a combination thereof.
42. The method of claim 33, wherein the unsaturated fatty acid or derivative thereof comprises eicosapentaenoic acid 20:5 ω 3 (EPA), docosahexaenoic acid 22:6 ω 3 (DHA), docosapentaenoic acid 22:5 ω 3 (DPA), or a combination thereof.
43. The method of claim 33, wherein the compound III has the formula VI



VI

wherein R^3 and each R^6 is an alkyl group and n is from 1 to 12.

44. The method of claim 43, wherein each R^3 is a methyl group and n is 10.
45. The method of claim 43, wherein the unsaturated fatty acid or derivative thereof is derived from fish oil.
46. The method of claim 43, wherein the unsaturated fatty acid or derivative thereof comprises at least 20 carbon atoms.
47. The method of claim 43, wherein the unsaturated fatty acid or derivative thereof comprises at least one pair of methylene interrupted unsaturated bonds.
48. The method of claim 43, wherein the unsaturated fatty acid or derivative thereof is derived from an omega-3 fatty acid.

49. The method of claim 43, wherein the unsaturated fatty acid or derivative thereof comprises eicosapentaenoic acid 20:5 ω 3 (EPA), docosahexaenoic acid 22:6 ω 3 (DHA), docosapentaenoic acid 22:5 ω 3 (DPA), or a combination thereof.
50. The method of claim 43, wherein each R³ is a methyl group, n is 10, and the unsaturated fatty acid or derivative thereof comprises fish oil.
51. A compound prepared by any one of the methods of claims 33-50.
52. A nutritional supplement comprising a compound in any of claims 1-32 and 51.
53. The nutritional supplement of claim 52, comprising from about 0.05% to 20% by weight of the compound.
54. The nutritional supplement of claim 52, comprising from about 1% to 7.5% by weight of the compound.
55. The nutritional supplement of claim 52, wherein the supplement comprises up to 100% by weight of the compound.
56. The nutritional supplement of claim 52, wherein the supplement is in the form of a tablet, gel-cap, capsule, liquid, or syrup.
57. A delivery device comprising a compound in any of claims 1-32 and 51.
58. The delivery device of claim 57, wherein the device comprises a microcapsule, a liposome, a nanosome, a nanoerythrocyte, a solid-liquid nanoparticle, a microsphere, or a pulmosphere.
59. The delivery device of claim 57, wherein the device comprises a microcapsule, wherein the microcapsule comprises an agglomeration of primary microcapsules, each individual primary microcapsule having a primary shell and the agglomeration being encapsulated by an outer shell, wherein the compound in any of claims 1-32 and 51 is encapsulated in the primary microcapsule.

60. The delivery device of claim 59, wherein the primary shell and the outer shell comprises comprises gelatin type A, gelatin type B, polyphosphate, gum arabic, alginate, chitosan, carrageenan, pectin, starch, modified starch, alfa-lactalbumin, beta-lactoglobulin, ovalbumin, polysorbition, maltodextrins, cyclodextrins, cellulose, methyl cellulose, ethyl cellulose, hydropropylmethylcellulose, carboxymethylcellulose, milk protein, whey protein, soy protein, canola protein, albumin, chitin, polylactide, poly-lactide-co-glycolide, polylysine, kosher gelatin, non-kosher gelatin, Halal gelatin, non-Halal gelatin, or a mixture thereof.
61. The delivery device of claim 59, wherein the primary shell and the outer shell comprises gelatine type A having a Bloom strength of from 0 to 350.
62. The delivery device of claim 59, wherein the primary shell and the outer shell comprises a no bloom fish gelatin.
63. The delivery device of claim 59, further comprising an additional shell surrounding the outer shell, wherein at least one of the primary, outer, and additional shells comprise a complex coacervate.
64. A foodstuff comprising the compound in any of claims 1-32 and 51.
65. The foodstuff of claim 64, wherein the foodstuff is a baked good, a pasta, a meat product, a frozen dairy product, a milk product, a cheese product, an egg product, a condiment, a soup mix, a snack food, a nut product, a plant protein product, a hard candy, a soft candy, a poultry product, a processed fruit juice, a granulated sugar, a sauce, a gravy, a syrup, a nutritional bar, a beverage, a dry beverage powder, a jam or jelly, a fish product, or pet companion food.
66. The foodstuff of claim 64, wherein the foodstuff is bread, tortillas, cereal, sausage, chicken, ice cream, yogurt, milk, salad dressing, rice bran, fruit juice, a dry beverage powder, rolls, cookies, crackers, fruit pies, or cakes.
67. A method of lowering total cholesterol levels or triglyceride levels, increasing HDL levels, or a combination thereof in a subject, comprising the step of administering an effective amount of the compound in any of claims 1-32 and 51.

68. A method of reducing hyperglycemia in a subject, comprising the step of administering an effective amount of the compound in any of claims 1-32 and 51.
69. A method of reducing hypercholesterolemia in a subject, comprising the step of administering an effective amount of the compound in any of claims 1-32 and 51.
70. A method for treating or preventing a mitochondrial condition or disease in a subject, comprising the step of administering to the subject an effective amount of the compound in any of claims 1-32 and 51.
71. The method of claim 70, wherein the condition is a mitochondriopathy.
72. The method of claim 71, wherein the mitochondriopathy is Coenzyme Q₁₀ deficiency, ubiquinone-cytochrome c oxidoreductase deficiency, cytochrome c oxidase deficiency, chronic progressive external ophthalmoplegia syndrome, age-related macular degeneration, neuropathy, ataxia, or retinis Pigmentosa.
73. A method for increasing circulation in a subject, comprising the step of administering to the subject an effective amount of the compound in any of claims 1-32 and 51.
74. A method for increasing the immune system in a subject, comprising the step of administering to the subject an effective amount of the compound in any of claims 1-32 and 51.
75. A method for reducing the side effects of chemotherapy in a subject, comprising the step of administering to the subject an effective amount of the compound in any of claims 1-32 and 51.
76. A method for treating or preventing degenerative heart disease in a subject, comprising the step of administering to the subject an effective amount of the compound in any of claims 1-32 and 51.
77. A pharmaceutical formulation comprising the compound in any of claims 1-32 and 51 and a pharmaceutical carrier.

1/3

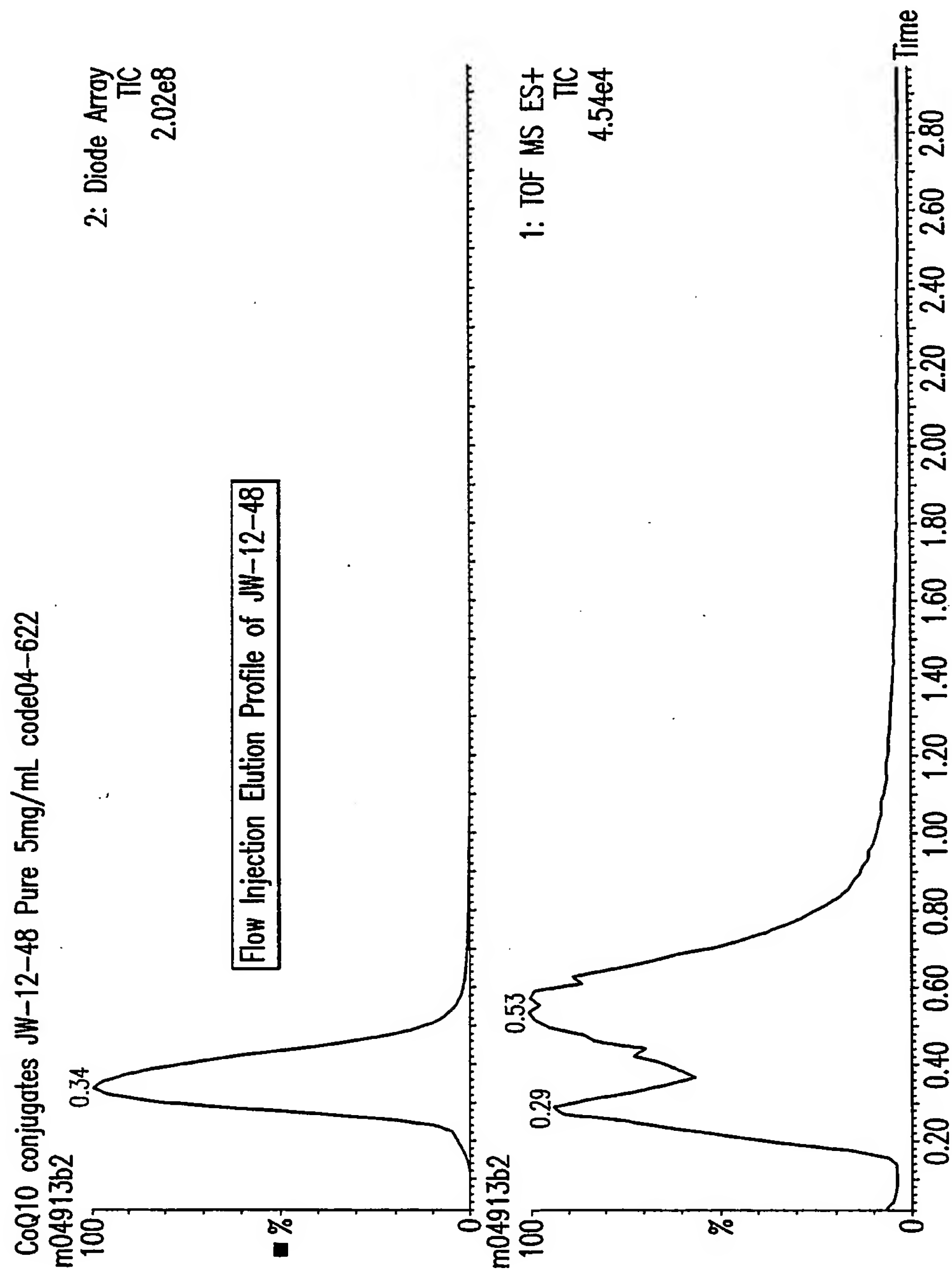


FIG.1

2/3

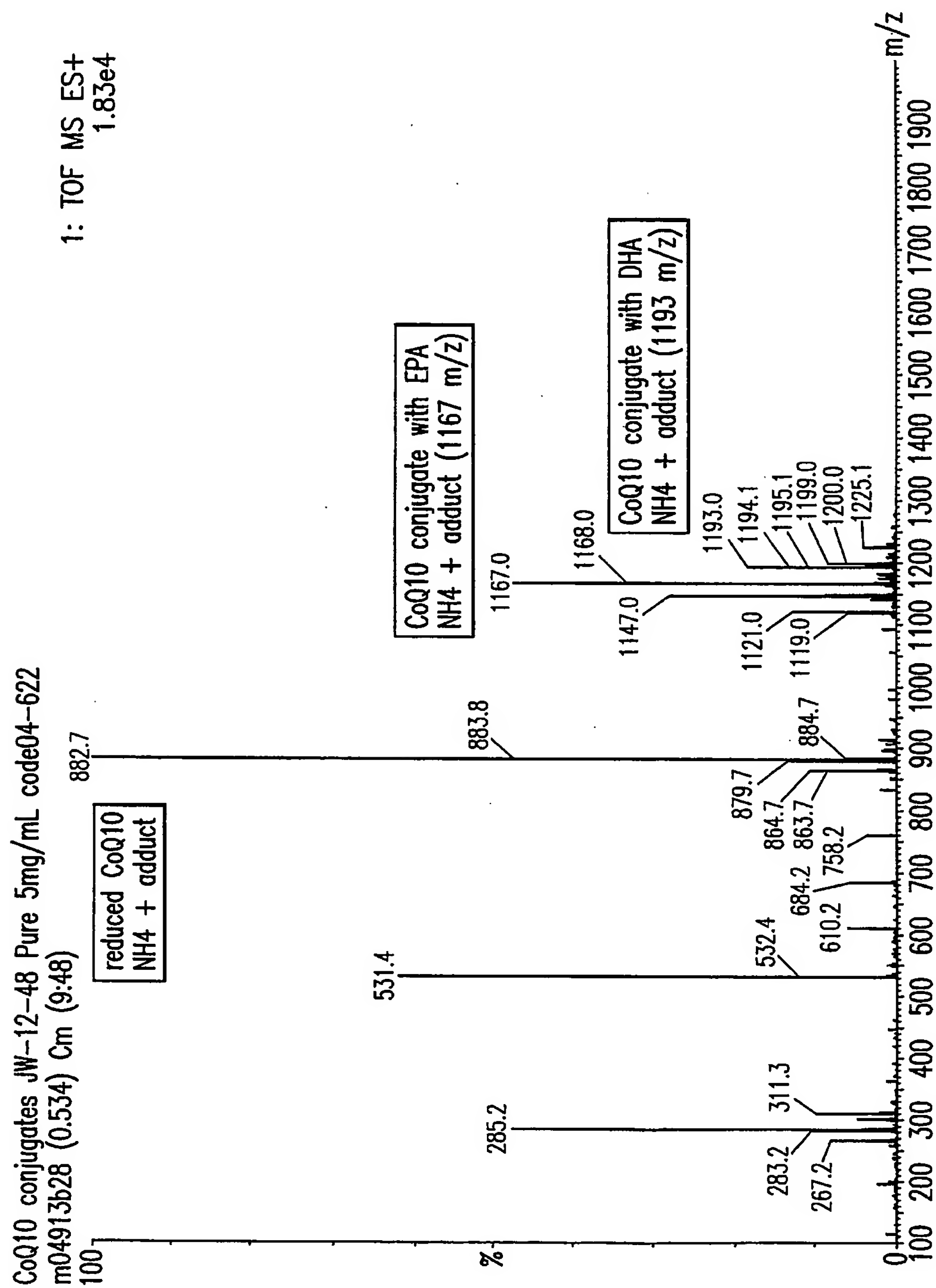
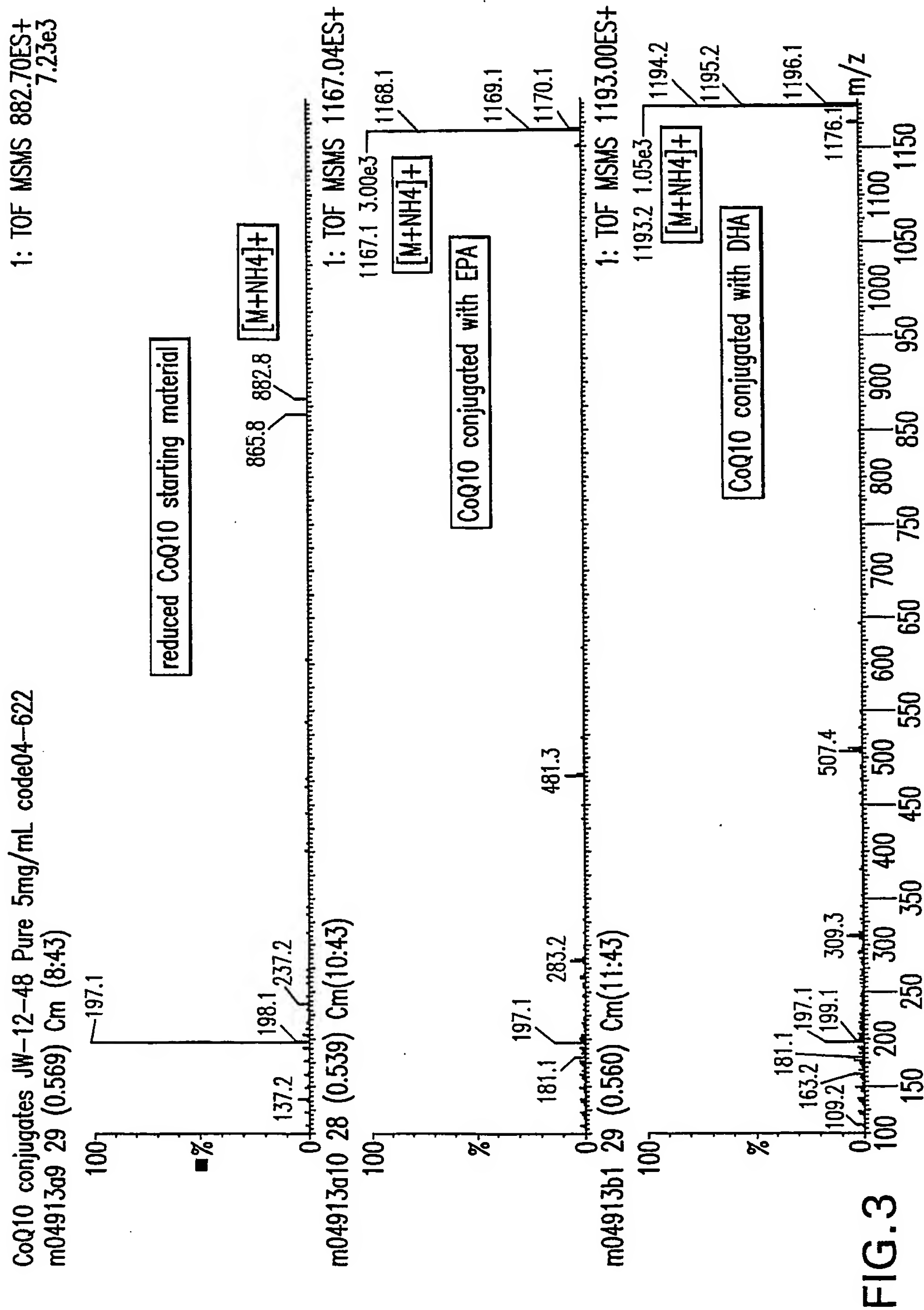


FIG.2

3/3



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/IB2006/001229

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. C07C69/52 C07C69/587 C07C67/14 A61K31/21

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

C07C A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, BEILSTEIN Data, CHEM ABS Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 6 127 417 A (GUARNIERI ET AL) 3 October 2000 (2000-10-03) claim 1	1-77
Y	US 6 417 233 B1 (SEARS GRAZIA ET AL) 9 July 2002 (2002-07-09) cited in the application column 3, lines 21-31; examples	1-77
Y	US 2003/236202 A1 (GEELINGS ARJAN ET AL) 25 December 2003 (2003-12-25) example 5; compounds VIII, IX	1-77
	-/--	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☒ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

26 September 2006

Date of mailing of the international search report

10/10/2006

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Pérez Carlón, Raquel

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/IB2006/001229

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1995, no. 09, 31 October 1995 (1995-10-31) & JP 07 165575 A (NIPPON OIL & FATS CO LTD), 27 June 1995 (1995-06-27) abstract	1-77
X	----- US 4 526 779 A (HASHIMOTO ET AL) 2 July 1985 (1985-07-02) table 1	1-51,77
X	----- WO 03/082233 A (GHISALBERTI, CARLO) 9 October 2003 (2003-10-09) page 6, line 21 - page 7, line 1; claims; compounds IIIA-IIIF	1-51,77
X	----- US 4 036 773 A (OKORODUDU ET AL) 19 July 1977 (1977-07-19) (4-hydroxy-3,5-di-t-butylphenyl)laurate	1-51
X	----- US 3 969 383 A (DEXTER ET AL) 13 July 1976 (1976-07-13) column 1, lines 20-30; claims 1-5	1-51, 64-66,77
X	----- PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 009, no. 005 (C-260), 10 January 1985 (1985-01-10) & JP 59 161308 A (SHISEIDO KK), 12 September 1984 (1984-09-12) abstract	1-51,77
X	----- PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 007, no. 273 (C-198), 6 December 1983 (1983-12-06) & JP 58 154507 A (SUNSTAR HAMIGAKI KK), 14 September 1983 (1983-09-14) abstract	1-51,77
X	----- FR 1 175 829 A (SOCIETE DES PRODUITS CHIMIQUES DE BEZONS) 2 April 1959 (1959-04-02) page 2, right-hand column, lines 1-11; example 3	1-51
X	----- FR 2 056 507 A (GEIGY SA) 14 May 1971 (1971-05-14) claims; examples	1-56, 64-66
X	----- FR 947 640 A (GEIGY SA) 7 July 1949 (1949-07-07) examples 4-7,15,17	1-51
	----- -/--	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/IB2006/001229

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	HOPPER, RAGAN, HOOKS, LYNCH, MACDONALD: "Structure-activity relationships of Lysophosphatidic acid: conformationally restricted backbone mimetics" JOURNAL OF MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY, vol. 42, 1999, pages 963-970, XP002400294 compounds 19, 23	1-51
X	----- GB 1 533 086 A (BAYER AG) 22 November 1978 (1978-11-22) Hydroquinone dipalmitate -----	1-51

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/IB2006/001229

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: 66-76
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by therapy
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/IB2006/001229

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6127417	A	03-10-2000	AT 215525 T AU 3862997 A DE 69711633 D1 DE 69711633 T2 EP 0915824 A1 WO 9804512 A1 IT RM960529 A1	15-04-2002 20-02-1998 08-05-2002 21-11-2002 19-05-1999 05-02-1998 24-10-1996
US 6417233	B1	09-07-2002	AT 237323 T AU 1074600 A DE 69907010 D1 DE 69907010 T2 DK 1123093 T3 EP 1123093 A1 ES 2196874 T3 WO 0023069 A1 IT B0980596 A1 PT 1123093 T	15-05-2003 08-05-2000 22-05-2003 19-02-2004 11-08-2003 16-08-2001 16-12-2003 27-04-2000 21-04-2000 30-09-2003
US 2003236202	A1	25-12-2003	AU 2002302489 A1 CA 2480987 A1 WO 03082259 A1 EP 1494658 A1 ES 2256472 T3 JP 2005531523 T	13-10-2003 09-10-2003 09-10-2003 12-01-2005 16-07-2006 20-10-2005
JP 07165575	A	27-06-1995	NONE	
US 4526779	A	02-07-1985	DE 3264484 D1 EP 0060092 A2 JP 1398920 C JP 57145803 A JP 62006683 B	08-08-1985 15-09-1982 07-09-1987 09-09-1982 13-02-1987
WO 03082233	A	09-10-2003	AU 2003214499 A1 IT MI20020693 A1	13-10-2003 03-10-2003
US 4036773	A	19-07-1977	NONE	
US 3969383	A	13-07-1976	NONE	
JP 59161308	A	12-09-1984	NONE	
JP 58154507	A	14-09-1983	JP 1413805 C JP 62022963 B	10-12-1987 20-05-1987
FR 1175829	A	02-04-1959	NONE	
FR 2056507	A	14-05-1971	DE 2038522 A1	18-02-1971
FR 947640	A	07-07-1949	NONE	
GB 1533086	A	22-11-1978	AU 500686 B2 AU 2496477 A BR 7702971 A FR 2350377 A1 IT 1079636 B JP 1126544 C	31-05-1979 09-11-1978 29-11-1977 02-12-1977 13-05-1985 14-12-1982

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/IB2006/001229

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
GB 1533086	A	JP 52136257 A	14-11-1977
		JP 57018552 B	17-04-1982
		NL 7704918 A	09-11-1977
		SE 415775 B	27-10-1980
		SE 7705241 A	08-11-1977
<hr/>			